RK ANIMAL SUPPLIES LTD



Tips & Tricks on:
Beef Showmanship

You can select a winning calf, but it's your hard work and dedication that makes a champion















Always remain calm: your calf can sense any nervousness on your part and may also become nervous or unruly.

Showmanship Basics

- Always remember that Showmanship begins at home; this includes ensuring your animal is broke to lead and stand properly.
- Good showmanship takes time, patience & effort.
- Showmanship is the presentation of your animal's strong points and traits of the breed.
- The key to becoming a good showman is to be aware of the judge at all times, follow his/her instructions and stay calm and collected.
- Tools needed include a show stick and a grooming comb.
- Appearance is key: ensure you are clean and neatly dressed before entering the ring.

Showing

- The judge likes to see a well presented animal and handler. The animal should be clipped and fit to emphasize its good qualities. Have your animal well trained so that the judge can view the animal both walking and standing.
- Courtesy and sportsmanship are two important aspects in all walks of life, including the show ring. Be considerate of other exhibitors; never lead your animal in front of other entries, and congratulate your opponents no matter how you place.
- When entering the ring, be alert and have your animal at its best. Be sure to give yourself plenty of room between the next exhibitor.

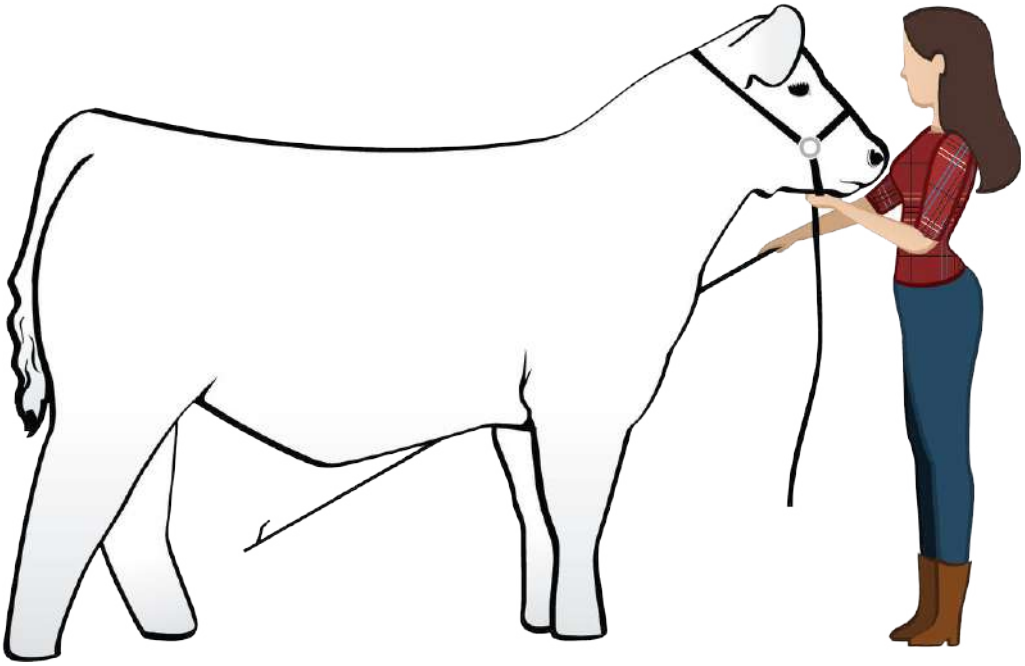




In the Ring

- Be on time – first impressions are lasting!
- Follow the dress code and all show rules.
- Be courteous to fellow exhibitors both in and out of the show ring.
- Always show your positive attitude.
- Have fun while you're showing! If you enjoy yourself, it will show!

Show Ring Necessities



Carbon Fiber Show Sticks
(Available in Black or Silver)

- Medium – 54"
- Large – 60"
- X-Large – 68"

Aluminum Show Sticks
(Available in Black or Silver)

- Small – 48"
- Medium – 54"
- Large – 60"
- X-Large – 68"

Choosing a Show Stick

- The length of a show stick should be in relation to the size of the calf being shown.
- The exhibitor should be able to stand at the calf's head and reach toward the back feet for the proper placement, while keeping the calf's head straight.

Using a Plastic Comb

- When using a plastic comb in the show ring, you should have the comb in your back pocket and the teeth should be pointed towards your body.
- Use this comb to fix any marks left in the hair after the judge touches your calf. Only use the comb if the judge touches your calf in the ring!
- A comb such as the Sullivan's Smart Grip or Stimulator Comb is a good choice for showmanship!

Choosing your Leather Halter

- The proper adjustment of a leather halter while on the animal's head is a key factor for control of the animal.
- The nose piece should be adjusted so that it is at the midpoint of the bridge of the nose.
- The lower the nose piece is on the bridge, the less control an exhibitor will have of the animal.
- The lead strap should be trimmed so that the exhibitor can hold the strap at the leather/chain junction and the end will not touch the ground.
- The chain chin strap on a show halter can agitate some animals, so covering the chain with vet wrap is recommended.

Show Ring Tips...

- Dress clean, neat & tidy.
- Be quiet and work with an air of dignity and pride.
- Remain calm; your calf can sense nervousness on your part and may also become nervous or unruly.
- Be considerate of other exhibitors.
- Regardless of how you place, always congratulate the other exhibitors!
- Do your best to have the winning calf in the show, however, as long as you have developed and exhibited your animal to the best of your ability, and as long as you did your best, you have accomplished your purpose and gained a wealth of experience.
- Improvement is key; be determined to return next year with a better calf to do a better job.
- ALWAYS be early for your class!
- Never chew gum in the ring!
- Never wear running shoes!
- Never wear a ball cap!
- Never pass another show person, unless you are instructed to do so.
- Improve your skills by watching experienced show people.
- Use criticism to your advantage.
- While in the ring, know where the judge is at all times; you don't want to miss a signal!
- Remember to always smile, have fun, and enjoy what you are doing!



While You're in the Show Ring

HINT:
Ensure your show attire follows the rules of the show!

Remember to be on time for your class and know the age and breeding information of your animal

Setting Up Your Calf

- Once your calf is set up and displayed for a side view, and the judge is viewing your calf, pull the far rear foot (furthest from the judge) forward half a step. This will give you the staggered foot placement, and show off the animal's longer body, giving a more structurally correct appearance.
- Be sure to keep comfortable space between the feet – you will want the calf standing strong and tall.
- The first use of the show stick should be to scratch the animal's brisket or belly to keep the animal calm.
- Keep in mind that a show person can also walk the animal into place, rather than using excessive force with your show stick.
- When walking your animal at a normal pace, the show stick should be held in the left hand with the hook end towards the ground.
- If the animal wants to walk at a faster pace, hold the show stick in front of the animal's nose to help slow it down. It can also be used to help level the animal's top and rump to 'loin' the animal. This helps flatten the back, and lifts the tail head.
- It is advisable to do this prior to the judge looking at you, otherwise you could draw attention to your animal's flaws.
- Always listen carefully to the judge's comments at the end of the class, and apply them the next time you enter the ring.

Moving your Animal

- When moving the animal, the exhibitor must maintain adequate spacing with the animals around it.
- Do not 'tailgate' the animal in front of you, as this doesn't allow the judge to get a total perspective of either animal.
- Do not wait to stop your animal until the animal in front of you stops, or you may rear end them. When stopping, always ensure you have enough space around your animal for the judge to have a clear view from all angles.
- Exhibitors should always pay attention to the straightness of lines when bringing animals to stop when side by side, or tail to head alignments. Having a straight line of animals allows for a more effective use of the available show ring space.



Tips on Positioning Your Animal

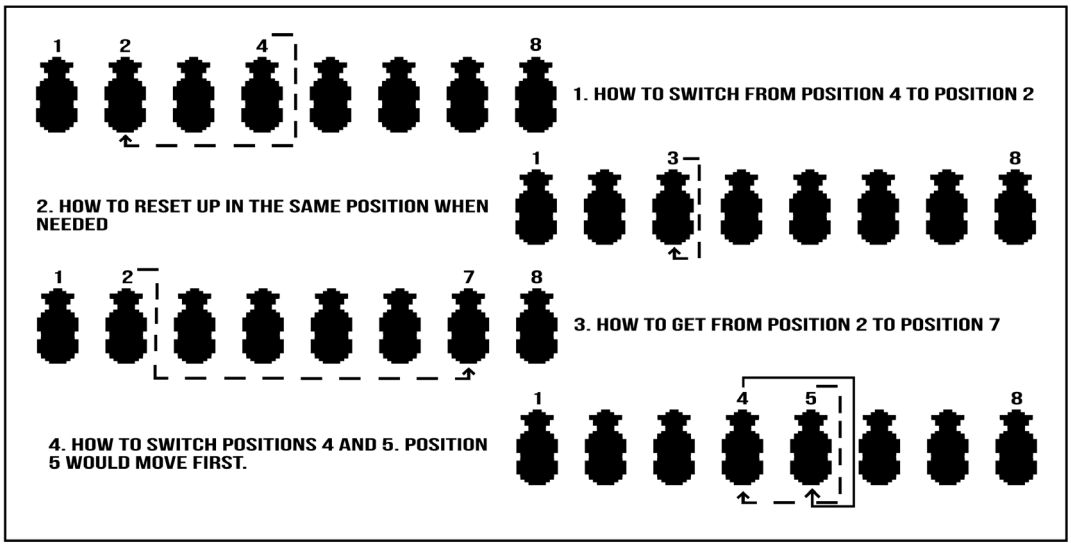
Remember to always keep a positive attitude while showing

How to Switch Animals

- While participating in a showmanship competition, be prepared to switch animals with another competitor.
- Before you do so, make a quick circle around the animal, and take a mental note of that animal's strengths and weaknesses.
- Ask the owner the animal's information, such as the age, weight, sire, breeding program, etc.
- Be prepared to tell the judge what you like about this animal, and what you would like to change.

Stopping Your Animal

- Watch for the judge's signal so you know when to stop.
- Generally, the judge will raise an open palm in the air if he wants you to stop your animal.
- When you stop, exchange the lead strap from your right hand to your left, and the show stick to your right hand.
- Be sure to leave enough space between you and the animal in front of you.
- The animal's head should be held high, facing straight ahead.
- If the judge wants you to continue walking, he will wave his hand in a circular motion.





Remember that Showmanship begins at home!

Presenting Yourself – Position, Posture & Attire

- When the animal is being viewed from the side, the exhibitor should be standing slightly forward of the animal's head, approximately an arm's length away from the animal.
- Keep the judge's view completely unobstructed!
- The shoes worn by the individual should offer some protection from the animal's weight – athletic shoes should not be worn in the show ring.

The Ultimate Goal

- Showmanship is more than a style or a "look".
- A truly outstanding show person will constantly bring out the optimum appearance of any given animal that he or she leads into the show ring. This should be the ultimate goal of every exhibitor.
- Always keep showing once the judge makes their decision; it may not be the final one.
- Remember to relax and smile, showmanship is meant to be a fun learning experience!
- Gain all that you can from each show you compete at no matter how you placed!

Myths, Pet Peeves & Other Issues

- NEVER arrive late for a class!
- Always know some basic information about the animal that you are showing. The exhibitor should always know the weight of the animal as well as the breed, age, and breeding status/calving date.
- While straight lines are important, an animal that is slightly out of place does not necessitate that the exhibitor should circle the animal. Moving the front end by applying pressure with the halter can help realign many animals.
- If you circle your animal too often, it will eventually train your animal not to stand in place.
- There is enough noise at a fair or a show that the exhibitor doesn't need to create more. Actions such as whistling, snapping fingers, or a loud voice in order to get the calf's attention is considered poor etiquette.



Let's Review!

Be sure to clip your animal before the show, that way it can become accustomed to its new surroundings



- This demonstrates a staggered foot placement.
- This gives the animal a longer bodied and more correct appearance.
- This is a good position for side views in a head-to-tail alignment.



- This demonstrates how the halter lead strap should be adjusted by the size of the exhibitor and the animal
- The strap should be held unfolded through the hand, and cut shorter so that it doesn't touch the ground.



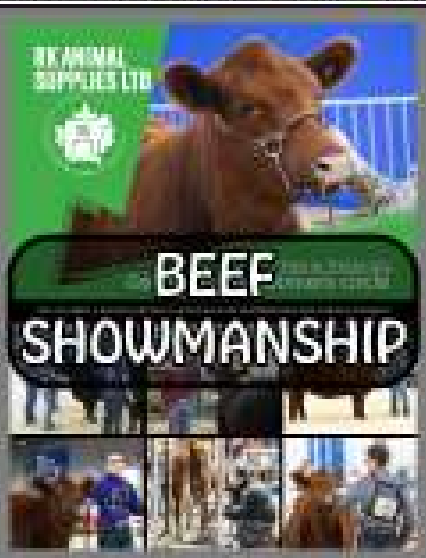
- This demonstrates the proper way to hold the animal's head at the appropriate position, as well as holding the show stick with the proper hand

Show Equipment Checklist:

- Blower
- Blocking Chute
- Turbo Fan
- Fork
- Shovel
- Broom
- Extra Rope Halter
- Extra Necktie
- Water Bucket
- Feed Pan
- Clippers
- Blades
- S/S Smart Comb
- S/S Smart Fluffer
- Smart Sensation Brush
- Show Halter
- Scissors
- Extension Cord
- Show Stick
- Water Hose
- Tail Clamp
- Shampoo
- Weaver's ProAdhesive Firm
- Sullivan's Styling Mousse
- Sullivan's Final Bloom
- Sullivan's Flare
- Sullivan's Revive
- Sullivan's Game Changer
- RK Pure Remove It
- Touch-Up Colours

EDUCATIONAL FLYERS AVAILABLE AT RK













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