



# Showmanship Tips

## For the Junior Market Goat Project



### BEFORE THE SHOW:

- ☛ Select a goat born between December to May of the current year.
- ☛ Goats must weigh at least 45 pounds by the date of the show.
- ☛ Feed a good quality feed and provide fresh water daily.
- ☛ Clip your goat at least a week before the show. Trim the hooves.
- ☛ Tip the horns or show an animal that was dehorned soon after it was born.
- ☛ Walk your goat every day to get it used to leading.
- ☛ Teach your goat to lead by using the “pull then release” method, repeat.
- ☛ Practice switching hands on the lead or collar, and switching sides smoothly.
- ☛ Practice setting your goat’s feet squarely.
- ☛ Know all your goat parts.
- ☛ Know when your goat was born.

*Do your best to do the work yourself.  
Let your parents or advisors show you  
how, but actively learn how to prepare  
your goat for shows.*

### THE DAY OF THE SHOW

- ☛ Thoroughly clean your animal, give it a bath if needed.
- ☛ Don’t show in dirty clothes. Bring clothes to change into before showtime.
- ☛ Wear neat clean jeans and boots or sturdy shoes (closed toes)
- ☛ Show in a clean shirt with a collar.
- ☛ Don’t chew gum or candy.

Ginger Boatright,  
Ware County 4-H Agent

- ☛ Be on time for your class or be early.
- ☛ Check in with the gatekeeper.

### IN THE RING

- ☛ Show your goat in a chain collar. Use a short lead if needed.
- ☛ Enter the show ring with confidence.
- ☛ Keep your eyes on the judge at all times. Smile!
- ☛ Keep your goat between you and the Judge at all times.
- ☛ Show courtesy toward the judge with “yes, sir” or “ma’am”.
- ☛ Don’t let your goat run over the judge.
- ☛ Stay calm even if your goat misbehaves.
- ☛ Don’t ever stop showing your animal, even if the judge has lined up several animals.
- ☛ Be a good sport, congratulate the winners if you don’t receive an award and shake the judge’s hand.
- ☛ Feed and water your goat after showing. They worked hard too!

