# 4-H Advancement Prögit

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# Leaders' Guide

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### Advancement programs:

- Provide an outline for the club's "Program of Work"
- Provide activities for club meetings
- Divide members into interest and ability levels
- ▶ Supplement and broaden experiences for learning
- Give junior leaders additional responsibilities and opportunities for development
- ▶ Encourage older members to continue in 4-H Club

Advancement programs have been developed to suggest activities and establish standards to help 4-H members and club leaders set goals and measure progress. They are applicable to those projects that do not lend themselves to graded divisions, such as the phases in foods and clothing projects. Advancement programs have been developed for the horse, beef, dairy, sheep, swine, rabbit, poultry, garden, forestry, gun safety, and photography projects and may be developed for others.

The advancement program is especially adapted to large livestock or outdoor clubs that have members enrolled in several projects and with a spread of ages. Coleaders or junior leaders can work with the various projects and advancement levels. Thus the members are divided into small work groups of their own ability

and interest levels.

# Advancement Program Steps

The steps are written so that a nine year old can start working on Step 1. Older members will also start with Step 1, but they may complete it in a few weeks or months and move on to higher steps. A 4-H member may advance as fast as he can satisfactorily complete the requirements of each progressive step.

Much of the information needed will be found in the project literature, especially for the early steps. The advanced steps will require the use of adult bulletins

and other references.

Work on other steps can be started before passing the first step, but final approval of the steps must be in order.

# Presenting the Advancement Program

This is a voluntary program. You will want to present the advancement program at the beginning of each club year and discuss it several times during the club year. Copies of the various advancement programs are available from your County Extension Office for each member. Order them after the members have agreed and accepted the program. They may not all wish to start the advancement program at the same time. Ask parents to become familiar with the program and assist as needed.

# **Program Chairman or Committee**

Valuable training and experience can be gained by 4-H members when they are interviewed by persons

other then their regular club leaders. This experience help-proper them for job and scholarship interviews.

You may be first an advancement chairman or committee to review an advancement their required jobs for the familiar with the chairman or committee needs to be familiar with the 4-H program and its objectives and the project area. Too much delay in scheduling the interview after the club member is ready can be discouraging, especially for younger members.

The advancement chairman or committee will approve the advancement when they are satisfied that the member is ready for the next step. Step 4 must be approved by the county Extension agent or someone ap-

proved by him.

#### Advancement Certificates

4-H Advancement Certificates are available from your County Extension Office. When a 4-H member has completed a Step, send the signed worksheet to your 4-H Extension agent. He will prepare an Advancement Certificate and will return the advancement manual with the certificate to you.

Earning an Advancement Certificate deserves public recognition. Check with your 4-H agent concerning the handling of newspaper and radio releases in your county. Advancement Certificates can be presented at

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4-H achievement programs or other appropriate occasions. Junior leaders and co-leaders who have assisted can be recognized along with the 4-H members.

## Members' Viewpoint

#### Advancement programs:

- ► Make projects more interesting
- ▶ Help members learn more about their projects
- Help members develop manual skills
- Allow members to advance according to their ability and willingness to work

- Make members eligible to participate in certain activities and events
- ► Give credit for extra work done—advancement will count toward trip and scholarship awards
- Help prepare members for college courses and activities

Your club may require that members achieve certain advancement levels before they can participate in some activities. Horse clubs, for example, may require that Step 1 be passed before a member can ride with the club and that Step 2 be passed before they can go on an overnight trail ride.

## 4-H ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM RECORD

Use this form to record the advancement of the members of your club. Record the date each step is completed and the date the advancement certificate is presented. If a member is working on advancement programs in two projects, enter his name on two lines.

Nam	e of Club		***************************************			••			**-*		
			Step	Step No.		Step No.		Step No.		Step No.	
	Members' names	Project	Date comp.					Cert. pres.	Date comp.	Cert. pres.	
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