

HORSE HEALTH AND WELLBEING CHECK



RED: Seek veterinary advice immediately **AMBER:** Monitor your horse closely **GREEN:** Good health and well being

WOUNDS/SADDLE/GIRTH

No visible marks
Heat/swelling/tenderness
Pain/bleeding/temperature

MUSCLES/BACK

Relaxed
Tender/slight stiffness
Very tight/painful

RECTAL TEMPERATURE

<38.6 °C rest
39.5-40.4 °C during ride
> 40.5 °C

ANAL TONE

Tight
Slightly loose
Flaccid

GUT SOUNDS

Normal
Infrequent/increased
Absent/abnormal

HEART RATE (RESTING HORSE)

28-44 beats/min
>60 beats/min
>80 beats/min

IMPULSION

Free and happy to work
Tripping/reluctant to move forward
Lameness/stiffness

JUGULAR REFILL

1-2 seconds
2-3 seconds
>4 seconds

RESPIRATORY RATE (AT REST)

8-10 breaths/min
Panting
Laboured/heaving

JOINTS/LEGS

No heat or swelling
Heat/swelling
Pain/raw bleeding

STRIDE

Free and sound
Shortness/head nodding
Abnormal stride/Unable to bear weight

ATTITUDE

Alert/normal appetite and water intake
Lethargic and depressed
Absence of appetite/thirst
/not interested/change in defecation

EYES

Clear and bright
Glazed expression
Staring/sunken

CAPILLARY REFILL

0-1 seconds
2-3 seconds
> 4 seconds

MUCOUS MEMBRANES

Moist/Pink
Pale/Tacky
Dry/Blue/Purple

SKIN PINCH

0-1.5 seconds
2-3 seconds
> 4 seconds

working with

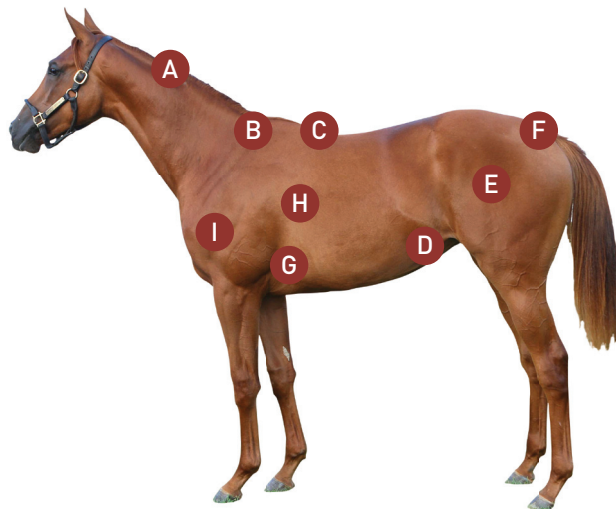


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FEED THE DIFFERENCE



BODY CONDITION SCORING CHART

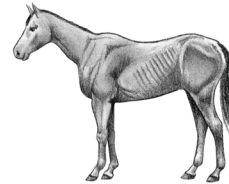


Areas of Emphasis for Body Condition Scoring

- A:** Thickening of the neck
- B:** Fat covering the withers
- C:** Fat deposits along backbone
- D:** Fat deposit on flanks
- E:** Fat deposits on inner thigh
- F:** Fat deposits around tailhead
- G:** Fat deposit behind shoulder
- H:** Fat covering ribs
- I:** Shoulder blends into neck

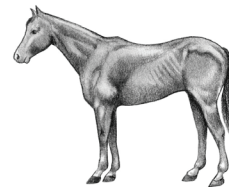
1 Poor

Animal extremely emaciated; spinous processes, ribs, tailhead, tuber coxae, and tuber ischii projecting prominently; bone structure of withers, shoulders, and neck easily noticeable; no fatty tissue can be felt.



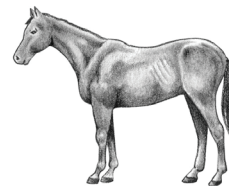
2 Very Thin

Animal emaciated; slight fat covering over base of spinous processes; transverse processes of lumbar vertebrae feel rounded; spinous processes, ribs, tailhead, tuber coxae, and tuber ischii prominent; withers, shoulders, and neck structure faintly discernible.



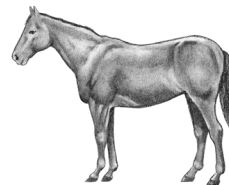
3 Thin

Fat buildup about halfway on spinous processes; transverse processes cannot be felt; slight fat cover over ribs; spinous processes and ribs easily discernible; tailhead prominent, but individual vertebrae cannot be identified visually; tuber coxae appear rounded but easily discernible; tuber ischii not distinguishable; withers, shoulders, and neck accentuated.



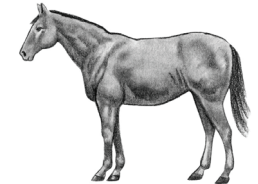
4 Moderately Thin

Slight ridge along back; faint outline of ribs discernible; tailhead prominence depends on conformation, fat can be felt around it; tuber coxae not discernible; withers, shoulders, and neck not obviously thin.



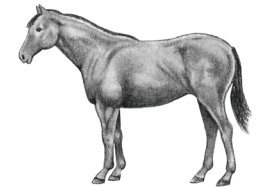
5 MODERATE

Back is flat (no crease or ridge); ribs not visually distinguishable but easily felt; fat around tailhead beginning to feel spongy; withers appear rounded over spinous processes; shoulders and neck blend smoothly into body.



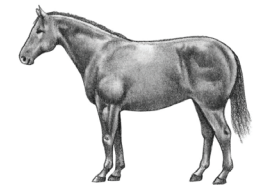
6 Moderately Fleshy

May have slight crease down back; fat over ribs fleshy/ spongy; fat around tailhead soft; fat beginning to be deposited along sides of withers, behind shoulders, and along sides of neck.



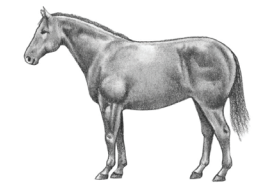
7 Fleshy

May have crease down back; individual ribs can be felt, but noticeable filling between ribs with fat; fat around tailhead soft; fat deposited along withers, behind shoulders, and along neck.



8 Fat

Crease down back; difficult to feel ribs; fat around tailhead very soft; area along withers filled with fat; area behind shoulder filled with fat; noticeable thickening of neck; fat deposited along inner thighs.



9 Extremely Fat

Obvious crease down back; patchy fat appearing

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