

2026 Horse Project Record Book Juniors



Ages 8-14 must complete
this by May 1st.

Exhibitor Name _____

Club Name _____

Age _____ As of January 1st 2026

This is the age you will be showing at fair

Exhibitor Signature _____

Parent or
Leader Signature _____

Horse Project Record Book Requirements

4-H Horse Project Members may elect to participate in 4-h Winter achievement with a Horse Science Project (See WA events catalog for details).OR Participate in Hippology/Horse Judging: Attend a minimum of 5 meetings and 1 competition INSTEAD of completing the Require Project Record Book.

- 1.Resources to be used to complete this record book to be Scored: "4-H & Horse and Horsemanship, Horse Science, Horseless Horse, State 4-H Horse Show Rules and Regulations, SCC 4-h &Youth Fair Book, SCC Miniature Horse Show Guidelines and the other resources directly provided in record book ONLY.
- 2.All Books Must be Signed by Exhibitor and Parent or Leader.
- 3.ALL PAGES that are listed as required for your division MUST BE COMPLETED regardless of incorrect answers. DO NOT LEAVE ANY BLANK ANSWERS. If the line does not apply to you, please put N/A. N/A will only be acceptable for answers that are not found in books above or within the project record book itself. If answers are left blank that is considered INCOMPLETE PAGE. Two or more INCOMPLETE PAGES it WILL be considered an INCOMPLETE BOOK.
- 4.INCOMPLETE or LATE BOOKS will NOT be eligible for Championship classes during FAIR. This is all Horse Project classes. Project Record Book is a REQUIREMENT.
- 5.INCOMPLETE Books will NOT BE SCORED and will automatically receive "C "rating.
- 6.Books that contain obvious adult contribution or inappropriate content will not be scored. This will make it an INCOMPLETE BOOK. If you have a special need, please let the Project Record Book Committee know. Please Complete the book to the best of your ability
- 7.Coloring Is allowed and encouraged. As well as completing pages from other age divisions. NO EXTRA CREDIT POINTS will be given for this. HOWEVER, Extra contribution could be used to determine top awards if needed. Such as a Tie.
- 8.Creativity, effort, correctness, and completeness will all be used in judging this record book.
- 9.ALL PROJECT RECORD BOOKS MUST BE TURNED IN MAY 1st.
10. Books will be judged and the top 10 scores in each division will receive placing, with Grand and Reserve if warranted.

Start Date of Book____/____/____

Please Sign below saying I have read all the above requirements and I understand all of them.

Exhibitor_____

Leader Signature _____

Project Record Book

All pages will need to be completed for this to be graded. Project record Book is a Requirement for Their horse project. If Not Completed exhibitor will not be allowed to participate in any Grand and Reserve Classes at Fair. See horse project record book requirements page for other options.

This Year This Project Record Books is for seniors. Juniors Have another book.

Names of Pages	Points Available	Your Score
Front Cover	5	_____
Requirements	3	_____
Horse project animal	8	_____
horse judging	12	_____
Saddle up	25	_____
Inheritance and Genetic	20	_____
Inheritance and Genetic continued	29	_____
Age Determination	16	_____
Conformation	15	_____
Project Ground Rules	27	_____
Horse hair Use's	40	_____
Face Markings	6	_____
horse Health 911	19	_____
Horse budget	2	_____
Budget Worksheet	37	_____
Color	1	_____
Total	265	_____

Horse Project Animal



Please answer the questions below and attach a photo of you and your horse.

Horse's Name

Breed

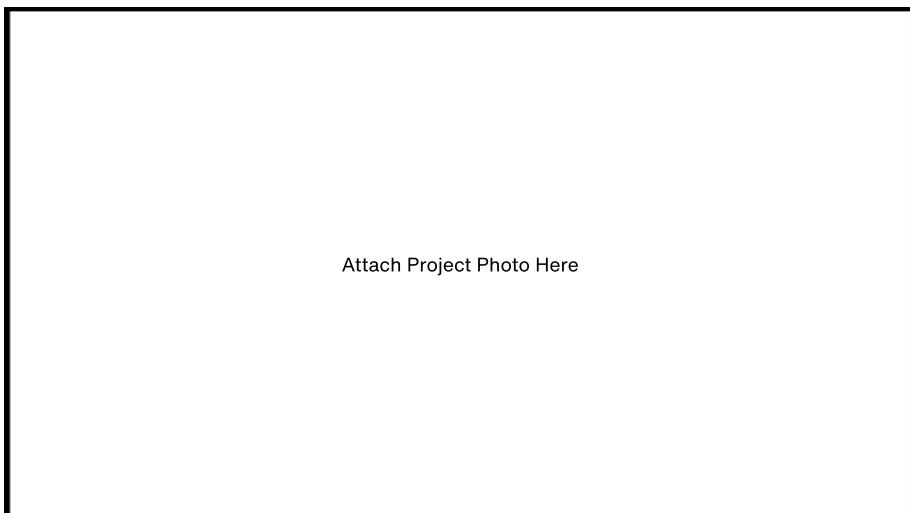
Age

What is you favorite thing to do with your horse?

What color and markings does your horse have?

How long have you owned or leased your horse?

What are your goals with your horse this year?



HORSE JUDGING FROM VARIOUS VIEWS

Side view (from a distance) - name 4 things a judge looks for:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Rear view (from a distance) - name 2 things a judge looks for:

1. _____
2. _____

Front view (from a distance) - name 2 things a judge looks for:

1. _____
2. _____

On close inspection - name 4 things a judge looks for:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

When horse is in action - name 2 things a judge looks for:

1. _____
2. _____

_____ /12 Points

Saddle Up

Fill in the blanks below:

1. The saddle must _____ the horse.
2. The _____ should _____ interfere with the ability of the _____ to perform.
3. The saddle must be appropriate for the riding _____ and _____ associated with that riding style.
4. The saddle should fit the _____.
5. The _____ is the basic _____ of the saddle.
6. _____ saddles were developed for _____ work and have a _____.
7. _____, western saddles are used for _____, Show, _____ riding, ranch type work and _____ events.
8. Western saddles need a _____ or saddle _____ between the saddle and the horse's _____.
9. Using the illustration list what the 5 Riggings shown would be used for below:
 - a) Full Double - _____
 - b) 7/8 Double- _____
 - c) In Skirt- _____
 - d) ¾ Double- _____
 - e) Center Fire- _____

_____ /25 points

Inheritance and Genetics

Fill in the blanks:

1. The study of how characteristics are passed from the parents to offspring is called _____.
2. _____ are the only links of inheritance an animal has with its parents. A _____ cell from the sire and an _____ cell from the dam.
3. Complex chemical compounds which are the carriers of inheritance are called _____ and _____.
4. Horses have _____ pairs of chromosomes in each cell.
5. Characteristics are passed from parents to offspring through _____ which are the “_____” of the cell.
6. The formation of egg and sperm cells is called _____.
7. One pair of genes causes the coat to be either _____ or _____, depending on which particular combination of the _____ genes is present.
8. The _____ gene is dominant.
9. _____ means genetic makeup.

10. Consider these circumstances:

- a.) A red (chestnut) mare(bb) is bred to a truly black stallion (BB). What color will the foal be? _____
- b.) A black stallion that has a Bb genotype is bred to a red (bb) mare, what color will the foal be? _____
- c.) A (Bb) stallion bred to (Bb) mare, what color will the foal be? _____

Inheritance & Genetics continued

11. List 6 traits in horses that are influenced by genes:

12. Many equine crosses have been made, the most popular between the _____, as the male parent, and the horse _____ producing the _____.

13. A stallion bred to a jennet produces a _____.

14. The _____ and the _____ are usually sterile.

15. Stallions have one x _____ and one _____ chromosome, Their sex genotype is _____.

16. Mares have _____ x chromosomes. Their sex genotype is _____.

17. In reduction division in the stallion, half the _____ contain an _____ chromosome and half contain a _____ chromosome. In the mare all _____ cells contain an x _____.

18. If a sperm carrying an x chromosome _____ the egg, the foal will have an xx genotype, and would develop as a _____.

19. If a sperm carrying a _____ chromosome happens to fertilize the egg, the foal genotype would be _____ and would be a stallion.

20. The chances are _____ for the foal to be _____ or _____.

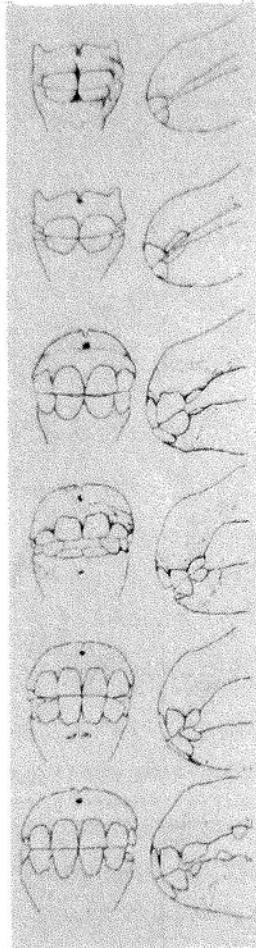
_____ /29 Points

Age Determination

Please use the Horse Science book to fill in the blank, True or False, or match the picture to the age of horse.

1. Age determination is made by studying the twelve front teeth called _____.
2. What are the four major ways to estimate age of horses by appearance of their teeth?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
3. True or False: A young horse has a total of 24 temporary teeth.
4. True or False: The number of permanent teeth does not depend on the horse's sex.
5. Young permanent teeth have _____ in the center of their surfaces which are also used to help determining age.
6. The shape of the teeth also change during _____ and _____.

Draw a Line from the correct age of horse to the picture of teeth.



A. 3.5 years

B. 9 months

C. 1 month

D. 4.5 years

E. 3 months

F. 2.5 years

Conformation - Common defects

Fill in the blanks:

1. _____ - Excessive flexing of a hind leg; most easily detected when a horse is backed.
2. _____ - Heavy contact with ground instead of desired light, springy movement.
3. _____ - A "scuffing" on the inside of the diagonal forefeet and hindfeet; generally confined to pacers.
4. _____ - An exaggerated paddling particularly noticeable in high-going horses.
5. _____ - Striking fetlock or cannon with the opposite foot; most often done by base-narrow, toe-wide, or splay-footed horses.
6. _____ - The hairline at top if hindfoot hits toe of forefoot as it breaks over.
7. _____ - A defect detected when the animal favors the affected foot. The load on the ailing foot in action is eased and a characteristic bobbing of the head occurs as the affected foot strikes the ground.
8. _____ - A short, quick, choppy stride, a tendency of horses with short, straight pasterns and straight shoulders.
9. _____ - Striking forefoot with toe of hindfoot.
10. _____ - Excessive lateral shoulder motion; characteristic of horses with protruding shoulders.
11. _____ - Throwing the front feet outward as they are picked up, most common in toe-narrow or pigeon-toed horses.
12. _____ - A twisting of the striding leg around in front of supporting leg, which results in contact like that of a rope-walking artist.
13. _____ - A noticeable pause in the flight of the foot, as though the stride were completed before the foot reaches the ground.
14. _____ - The inside of diagonal fore and hind pastern make contact; sometimes seen in fast-trotting horses.
15. _____ - Perceptible extension of the stride with little flexion.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY HORSE PROJECT GROUND RULES

Use the Horse Project Ground Rules found on the SCCHLA web page.

Answer True or False to the following:

_____ Stall cards with members name, emergency contact number and club must be visible on the stall of the project animal.

_____ Aisles must not be kept clear at all times.

_____ Project animals are to be bathed in designated wash area only.

_____ Leaders and parents are not responsible for their members obeying and following the rules.

_____ Absolutely NO rough riding or racing is permitted in any horse ring.

Fill In the Blanks

1. No riding or _____ on horses in or around the barns. NOTE: Members _____ ride in show/practice _____, or other designated areas assigned by _____ and the Fair Board _____.
2. Boots _____ be worn for stable _____. No _____ feet in the barns.
3. NO riding of _____ up or down _____. This is a _____ rule.
4. All riders must wear _____. Barefoot, sandals, _____, etc are not permissible while riding, handling or _____ for your horse(s).
5. No lunging of horses other than in _____ areas.
6. Members must enter _____ with proper attire and _____ per discipline. Check your state _____ book for further details.
7. No coffee makers/pots, _____, crock pots or electric _____ appliances are to be _____ in or maintained in any _____ or area surrounding barns.

What Is Horse Hair Used For? (Top 10 Uses Reviewed) Believe it or not, horse hair has a number of different uses, some of them quite surprising. It's strong, durable and flexible, making it ideal for a variety of applications. From fabrics to wigs and from brushes to bows of musical instruments, the versatility of horse hair is truly astounding. So what is horse hair used for? In this article, we'll review 10 interesting uses of horse hair. **What is horse hair?** Horse hair is the hair that is usually taken from the horse's tail and mane. It is a type of protein fiber that is both strong and flexible. In the past, it was often used in the manufacturing of upholstery, bristles for brushes, and felts for hats. Today, horse hair is still used for these purposes, but it has also found new uses in a variety of industries. Horse hair comes in different lengths and quality levels. Accordingly, different types of hair is used in different applications. For instance, the hair from the mane is softer and longer and is, therefore, used in making fabrics or long-haired wigs. Medium-length or shorter hair from the tail is used in making bristles for brushes or to stuff upholstery. **What Is Horse Hair Used For?** Amongst the many

, horse hair is often overlooked. With its strength, flexibility, and durability, horse hair has a number of surprising uses. Here are the top 10: 1. **Fabrics** 2. **Bristles for brushes** 3. **Wigs** 4. **Pottery** 5. **Jewelry** 6. **Bows of musical string instruments**. 7. **Stuffing inside pillows and bedding** 8. **Fishing lures** 9. **Hats** 10. **Dusters**. Let's now look closely at each of these remarkable uses and products made using horse hair. **#1. Fabrics.** A common use of horse hair is in woven fabric. Horse hair fabric is made by interweaving horse hair with other fibers like wool, cotton or silk. This type of fabric is often used for upholstery, clothing, and other textiles. It's also used in carpets and rugs. Fabrics made from horse hair are known for their durability and strength. They're also resistant to stretching and creasing, making them ideal for clothing such as suits, dresses, skirts, and jackets. Horse hair fabrics also have a luster that adds a touch of elegance to any piece of clothing made from it. **#2. Bristles for brushes.** One of the most popular uses for horse hair is in the manufacturing of brushes. Horse hair bristles are used in a variety of different types of brushes, including paintbrushes, shaving brushes, and even some types of cosmetics brushes. The reason horse hair is so popular for brush-making is that it's able to retain its shape and stiffness, even when wet. This makes it the perfect material for brushes that need to maintain their shape and firmness, such as paintbrushes. Horse hair bristles are also soft enough to be gentle on the skin, making them ideal for shaving brushes and cosmetics brushes. **#3. Wigs.** Horse hair is also used in the production of wigs and hairpieces. The hair is often collected from the tail or mane of the horse, and then it's sewn or weaved into a wig cap. This type of wig is often used by people who are experiencing hair loss. Horse hair wigs are known for their natural look and feel. They're also very durable, making them a good choice for people who want a wig that will last for a long time. **#4. Pottery.** Horse hair is sometimes used in pottery as well. The hair is added to the clay before it's fired, and it creates interesting patterns in the glaze. This type of pottery is often used for decorative purposes. Using horse hair in pottery is not new. In fact, horse hair pottery is found in Native American Navajo art. The pottery is made by adding horse hair to the clay while it's being

shaped. When the pottery is fired, the horse hair burns away and leaves behind interesting patterns in the glaze. **#5. Jewelry & Accessories.** Horse hair is also used to make a variety of different jewelry and accessories. Bracelets, necklaces, and rings are all commonly made using horse hair. The hair is often braided or woven into intricate designs. Accessories made using horse hair are often very strong and durable. They're also unique and stylish, making them a popular choice for people who want to add a touch of personality to their outfits. Common accessories made with horse hair include purses, belts, wallets and hats.

#6. Bows of musical string instruments. A very interesting application of horse hair is in the manufacturing of bows for string instruments. A bow will typically need 100 to 200 individual strands of hair which are then glued together. The horse hair is then attached to the bow's stick. Bows made with horse hair are known for their ability to produce a clear, crisp sound. They're also very flexible, which allows musicians to create a wide range of sounds. Bowed string instruments that use horse hair bows include violins, violas, cellos, and double basses.

#7. Stuffing inside pillows and bedding. Pillows and bedding are usually stuffed with materials like down or polyester fiberfill. However, some high-end pillows and bedding are stuffed with horse hair. Horse hair is a natural material, so it's often used as a stuffing because it's breathable and hypoallergenic. It's also very durable, so it can last longer without needing to be replaced. Typically, the shortest hairs are used for stuffing pillows and bedding because they're less useful for other applications like making fabric or bows for violins and then can be compacted together more densely. **#8. Fishing lures.** People have been using horse hair for fishing lures or lines for centuries. The hair is strong and flexible, making it ideal for this purpose. Horse hair is spun together to produce very long lines. People who prefer not to use synthetic materials often use horse hair because it's a natural product. **#9. Hats.** Hats made from horse hair can be very stylish and unique. The hair is often used to make brimmed hats, such as cowboy hats and fedoras. Horse hair hats aren't easy to make. Because horse hair is tough it doesn't bend easily. This makes it a challenge to shape into the desired hat form.

#10. Dusters. Just as horse hair is used to make brushes, another natural application is using it to make dusters. The hair is often used to make feather dusters, which are used for dusting furniture and other surfaces. Horsehair dusters are very effective at trapping dust and dirt.

They're also gentle enough to use on delicate surfaces without damaging them. **The Bottom Line.**

Horse hair is an interesting raw material and can be taken from a live horse without causing it any pain. It's strong, durable, and stylish, making it a popular choice for many products. It is commonly used for making fabrics, brushes, dusters, wigs, jewelry, accessories, pottery, hats, fishing lures, stuffing inside pillows and bedding as well as for bows for musical string instruments.

What Horse hair is used for

1. Horse hair is _____, _____ and _____ making it ideal for a variety of applications.
2. Horse hair is hair taken from the horses _____ and _____.
3. It is a type of _____.
4. Hair from the _____ is _____ and _____.
5. Medium length or shorter hair from the _____ is used in making _____ for _____ of to stuff _____.

List the top 10 uses of horse hair.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

True or False

6. _____ horse hair fabric is made by interweaving horse hair with other fibers like lycra, polyester and
7. _____ fabric from horse hair stretches.
8. _____ different types of brushes from horse hair are paint brushes, shaving brushes and some cosmetic brushes.
9. _____ horse hair brushes retain its shape and stiffness, even when wet.
10. _____ hair for wigs is collected from the tail and forelock.
11. _____ horse hair wigs are known for their natural locks and feel
12. _____ hair is added to clay after it's fired.
13. _____ using horse hair in pottery is new
14. _____ common accessories made with horse hair include purses, belts, wallets and hats
15. _____ bowed string instruments that use horse hair bows include violas, violins, cellos and double basses.
16. _____ horse hair is often used as a stuffing because it's breathable and hypoallergenic.
17. _____ people have been using horse hair for fishing lures or lines for a year
18. _____ the hair is used for brimmed hats such as cowboy hats and fedoras
19. _____ horse hair dusters are not effective at trapping dust and dirt
20. _____ horse hair is a raw material and can be taken from a live horse without causing it any pain.

Face Markings

Please use the 4H Horses & Horsemanship Book to answer the following worksheet. Draw a line from the word to the correct marking.



Bald Face



Blaze



Star



Star, Stripe, Snip



Stripe



Snip

Horse Health 911: When to call the veterinarian!

PUBLISHED ON

September 10, 2025

Although certain illnesses and conditions will have obvious signs and indicators that a veterinarian should be called, others may not. It is critical to know the normal behavior, attitude, and gait of your horses, since changes that could require veterinary attention may be subtle at first.

No one knows your horse better than you. Learn how to take your horse's heart rate (normal 38-40 beats per minute), respiratory rate (8-15 breaths per minute), and temperature (99-101.5 F), and know the normal values for your horse. Be familiar with normal gum color (light pink) and capillary refill time (less than 2 seconds). Understanding what is normal for your horse will help you identify subtle changes and will help improve communication with your veterinarian should an issue arise.

Equally important as knowing when to call your vet, is having a plan for emergencies. Keep important phone numbers readily available, have a plan for transportation if your horse requires a referral to a hospital, and keep a first aid kit on the farm and in your trailer. Consider discussing a backup veterinarian with your vet in case they are unavailable. Keeping directions and maps available to local veterinary hospitals may help expedite travel should that be necessary. Most importantly, remember to stay calm and call your vet sooner rather than later if you suspect a problem.

Specific Symptoms and Conditions

Call the vet if your horse has:

- Fever
 - Adult: temperature greater than 101.5 °F
 - Foal: temperature greater than 102 °F
 - Temperatures over 103 °F indicate a serious problem and your horse should be placed in a cool area with fans and hosed off until the vet arrives
- Abnormal gum color (red, purple, white, or yellow)
- Squinting, swollen, cloudy or tearing eye
- Yellow or green nasal discharge
- Loss of appetite or difficulty eating
 - Chronic cough

- Sweating profusely
- Lame (head-bobbing, reluctant to walk or trot, laying down more than usual)
- Unable to get up
- Unable to move
- Uncoordinated gait (ataxia) or stumbling excessively
- Seizures or collapse
- Profuse bleeding, deep wounds, or lacerations
- Difficulty breathing (nostril flare, distressed, increased respiratory rate)
- Injury over a joint, tendon, or on the bottom of the foot
- Depression or anxiety
- Diarrhea (more than loose manure from excitement/trailing)
- Blood in urine
- Heat stress
- Unusual swelling or suspected bite (snake, spider, etc.)
- Mare is foaling and there is no progression in 10-15 minutes from water breaking.
Normal deliveries take 30-40 minutes from water break to foal on the ground

Older Horse

- Losing weight
- Not eating well
- Dropping feed or difficulty chewing may indicate dental disease
- Not shedding out in the spring/long, curly hair coat
- Drinking and/or urinating excessively
- Lame
- See above specific symptoms and conditions

Foal

- Remember the 1-2-3 Rule! 1 hour to stand, 2 hours to nurse, and 3 hours for the mare to pass the placenta. If any of these are broken, call your vet!
- Mare has no milk, foal not nursing, IgG low (not enough colostrum)
- All foals should be evaluated by a veterinarian within 12-24 hours of birth to ensure adequate passive transfer
- Diarrhea in the first few days of life or any diarrhea that persists
- Fever (temperature greater than 102 °F)
- Abnormal behavior
- Seizures or other neurological signs
- Unable to stand
- Colic, bloated
- Milk coming out of nose
- Difficulty breathing or increased respiratory rate
- Any abnormalities with the eye, for example: tearing, squinting, swelling, cloudy appearance
- Straining to urinate or defecate
- Lame, swollen joint or joints

Colic

- Pawning, rolling, stretching out, flank watching
- Signs are severe or unrelenting
- Persistent pain despite initial treatment with pain reliever/sedatives
- High heart rate/respiratory rate/abnormal gums
- Chronic, mild signs of color
- Sooner is always better than later – call when you notice a problem!

Here is a Chart of Equine vital signs to help identify a Health Emergency!

Can You Identify Normal Horse Vital Signs?

Normal Temperature	Normal Pulse	Normal Respiration	Dehydration	Normal Gut Sound	Normal Capillary Refill Time	Other Tips
99.5 - 101.3°F	38 - 40 beats/minute	8 - 15 breaths/minute	Skin takes more than 2 seconds to return to place	Gurgling, sound of fluid dripping/tinkling	1- 2 seconds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be sure to check vital signs regularly to know what is normal, so you can identify anything abnormal• Do not take vital measurements on a nervous horse, to ensure accuracy• Call your veterinarian immediately if anything is abnormal
How to check: The most accurate way to take a horse's temperature is rectally (dipped in lubricant), using a digital thermometer.	How to check: There are 3 ideal areas to take your horse's pulse – under the jaw, beneath the tail at its bone or an area on the side of the foot. Count for 15 seconds and multiple by 4.	How to check: Watching your horse's ribcage or nostrils for 1 minute, count 1 inhale and 1 exhale as a single breath.	How to check: Pinch the skin on your horse's neck or shoulder area and it should return to its normal place within 1-2 seconds.	How to check: Place ear or a stethoscope up against horse's body, just behind the last rib, checking both sides.	How to check: Place finger against horse's gums for 2 seconds, creating a white mark from finger pressure. The white mark should return to normal pink tone within 1-2 seconds.	
Tips: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Always be sure to clean the thermometer after use• Exercise, stress or infections can elevate temperature• Leave the thermometer in long enough to avoid a false low reading	Tips: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Don't double count heartbeats• Foals ~ 70-120 beats/minute• Yearlings ~ 45-60 beats/minute	Tips: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not measure respiration by letting your horse sniff your hand• Wait for 30 minutes after exercise to check rate• Respiration rate should not exceed pulse rate	Tips: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Horses need 5-12 gallons of water per day in normal environments• In heat or with heavy exercise, horses need 15-20 gallons of water per day	Tips: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call the vet if there is an absence of sound, as it could indicate colic		

Please answer the following questions using the article provided on horse health.

True or false – Please write a T or F on the line.

You need to call the vet if:

- 1) Horse is depressed looking and has a temp of 103.
- 2) Your horses eye is swollen and tearing.
- 3) Horse has a mild cough but no fever and is eating normally.
- 4) Horse is laying down and snoring.
- 5) Horse is running around and whinnying and sweating. His/Her heart rate is above 15 breaths per minute.
- 6) Your horse seems anxious, sweating, trying to lay down and is biting at their flank.
- 7) It has been extremely hot and you just returned from a long trail ride. Your horse seems stressed. You do a skin pinch test. The skin doesn't return to flat for over 4 seconds. Horses pulse seems extremely fast.
- 8) Your mares new foals pulse rate is 80 beats per minute but is nursing normally.
- 9) Your older horse is losing weight and drinking much more then usual.
- 10) A young horse comes in from pasture with a large scrape on his hip. He is not lame or have any swelling.

Fill in the blank:

Abnormal gum colors are red, _____, _____, or _____.

Temperatures over 103 degrees F indicate a _____ problem and your horse should be placed in a _____ area with _____ and _____ off until the vet arrives.

You should call the vet if your horse has a _____ or _____ nasal discharge.

Why You Need a Horse Budget Worksheet

Let's be real: horses are majestic, but they aren't exactly known for their frugality. Between feed, veterinary visits, tack, stabling, and the occasional splurge on a custom saddle (because, hey, even horses deserve to ride in style), costs can add up faster than a galloping racehorse. Enter the horse budget worksheet, a tool that helps you track every penny and plan for both regular care and those pesky surprise bills.

Think of it as your financial blueprint for maintaining a happy, healthy horse without the anxiety of an ever-empty bank account. A comprehensive budget worksheet allows you to see where every dollar is going, anticipate future expenses, and even discover clever ways to save money while still giving your four-legged friend the best life possible. It's not just about crunching numbers; it's about creating a sustainable lifestyle that supports both you and your magnificent equine partner.

Whether you're new to the world of horse ownership or a seasoned rider looking to optimize your budget, a budget will equip you with the insights and practical steps you need to craft a worksheet that works as hard as your horse does.

The journey to mastering your horse care expenses starts with one simple tool, a well-crafted Horse Budget Worksheet. By taking the time to understand every cost, customize your financial tracking, and leverage digital tools, you're setting yourself up for a life where you can enjoy every ride without worrying about your budget.

Embrace the challenge with a sense of adventure, and remember that every great rider faces hurdles along the way. Whether you're optimizing your monthly spending, planning for seasonal costs, or preparing for unforeseen emergencies, the key is to stay proactive and adaptable.

Complete the attached Horse Budget Worksheet and fill in the sections with the costs of the expenses in the categories. You may need to ask for help from your parents, horse leader, trainer, barn owner, etc to complete the worksheet.

Do not leave anything blank. After completing the worksheet answer the questions below.

1. After learning the costs of owning horses, what surprised you most about the expenses??

2. What ongoing horse expense do you think people underestimate the most?

BUDGET WORKSHEET FOR HORSE OWNERS

Budgeted Item	Price	Comments	Budgeted Item	Price	Comments
BOARD			FARRIER		
Full Board					
Partial Board					
Pasture Board					
FEED			EQUINE INSURANCE		
Feed					
Hay					
Supplements					
Mineral Blocks					
EQUIPMENT			TRAINING		
Saddle			Training Fees		
Girth			Hauling Fees		
Pad					
Headstall					
Bit					
Reins					
Halter					
Lead Rope					
Blankets					
SUPPLIES			LESSONS		
Grooming Supplies					
First Aid Supplies					
Barn Supplies					
HEALTH			SHOWING AND COMPETITION		
Vet			Entry Fees		
Dentist			Stall Fees		
Vaccinations			Hookup		
Wormer			Hotel		
Coggins			Food		
TRUCK AND TRAILER			MISCELLANEOUS		
Truck payment					
Trailer payment					
Fuel					



Date Finished _____