

Horse Care Plan

Hundleby Equestrian Centre 2025/6

1. Daily Care Routine

- Perform general health checks on all horses daily, including observing appetite, behaviour, eyes, legs, and any signs of injury or illness.
- Feed and check water two to three times daily.
- Muck out stalls and refresh bedding daily.
- Groom horses before and after each riding session.
- Ensure each horse has daily turnout or exercise (weather permitting).

2. Feeding and Nutrition

- Develop an individual feeding plan for each horse based on age, workload, body condition, and veterinary advice.
- Provide supplements as needed (e.g. for joints, digestion, or immune support).
- Ensure clean, fresh water is available at all times.
- Provide quality hay or grazing access as the main forage source unless otherwise directed by a vet.

3. Veterinary Care

- Schedule a full veterinary health check once per year.
- Administer tetanus vaccinations every two years.
- Administer equine influenza vaccinations every six months, or as required for shows or insurance.
- Conduct deworming quarterly or according to fecal egg count results.
- Schedule routine dental checks every 6 to 12 months with an equine dentist or vet.

4. Farrier and Hoof Care

- Arrange farrier visits every 6 to 8 weeks for trimming or shoeing as appropriate.
- Pick out each horse's hooves daily.
- Inspect hooves weekly for signs of thrush, cracks, or other issues.

5. Parasite Control

- Perform fecal egg counts every 8 to 12 weeks.
- Deworm horses only as needed, based on test results and season.
- Practice good pasture management by rotating grazing areas and removing manure regularly.
- Avoid overgrazing and overcrowding in turnout areas.

6. Dental Care

- Schedule routine dental floating every 6 to 12 months.
- Monitor for signs of dental issues such as dropping feed, weight loss, or bit resistance.
- Seek prompt veterinary attention for any suspected dental problems.

7. Vaccination Plan

- Follow a standard vaccination schedule:
 - Tetanus: every two years.
 - Equine influenza: every six months.
 - Other vaccines such as equine herpesvirus or strangles as advised by the vet.

8. Exercise and Rest Balance

- Limit riding to a maximum of two hours per horse per day.
- Ensure each horse has at least one full rest day per week.
- Rotate horses across different rider levels and activities to prevent overuse.
- Adjust fitness and work programs according to seasonal needs and horse condition.

9. Injury and Illness Prevention

- Perform weekly tack checks for fit, wear, and safety.
- Inspect stables and arenas weekly for hazards (e.g. loose nails, slippery surfaces).
- Use rugs, boots, or fly protection as appropriate.
- Train all handlers in calm, consistent, and safe horse handling techniques.

10. Record Keeping

- Maintain an up-to-date file for each horse including:
 - Veterinary visits and vaccinations
 - Farrier and dental appointments
 - Feeding and supplement plans
 - Exercise schedules and workloads
 - Incident or injury reports
- Review records monthly to identify patterns or concerns.

11. Emergency Preparedness

- Post emergency contact numbers (vet, farrier, horse owners) clearly in the yard.
- Keep well-stocked first aid kits accessible in the yard and tack room.
- Train staff and volunteers in protocols for:
 - Colic
 - Lameness or injury
 - Rider fall or accident
 - Disease outbreaks (e.g. strangles, flu)

12. Staff and Volunteer Training


- Provide full induction training on daily care routines and emergency procedures.
- Conduct refresher training sessions every six months.

- Ensure all handlers are trained in basic equine first aid, biosecurity, and proper grooming/tacking up procedures.
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9. Contact Us

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

Hundleby Equestrian Centre

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