Worksheets & printouts
Label the Horse Parts:
How to measure a horse or pony.

Horses and ponies are measured for height in HANDS.......From the ground to the top of their withers. A hand is 4 inches. A horse is over 14 hands 2 inches. Under 14 Hands 2 inches is a pony. We use a measuring stick to measure height of horse or pony.
This image shows how the horse's skeleton is similar to a human!

Can you identify the following from human to horse? ......

- Knee
- Ankle
- Wrist
- Pelvis
COMMON HORSE TERMS

STALLION - A mature male horse than can reproduce

MARE - A mature female horse over 4 years old

FOAL - A young horse of either gender that is still with its mother

FILLY - A young female horse under 4 years old

COLT - A young male horse under 4 years old

YEARLING - A horse that is officially 1 year old

GELDING - A male horse that has been castrated

PONY - A mature horse of either gender that will never grow taller than 14.2 hands tall

HANDS - The unit of measurement used to determine the height of a horse. A hand is 4" tall.

MULE - A cross between a horse and a donkey

TACK - The equipment used when working with horses - halter, saddle, bridle, etc.

GREEN HORSE - An untrained or inexperienced horse

WITHERS - The slight ridge in the horse's backbone, just behind the mane. A horse's height is measured from the tallest point of its withers.

FARRIER - also called a horseshoer, this is a skilled craftsman who trims and shoes horses hooves
COLOURS OF HORSES AND PONIES

- Black
- Dark Bay
- Liver Chestnut
- Piebald
- Red Roan
- Blue Roan
- Palomino
- Skewbald
- Dun
- Fleabitten
- Dapple Gray
- Dominant White
- Tricolor
- Blood Bay
- Chestnut
- Cremello
- Gray
Markings

- Star
- Snip
- Blaze
- Bald
- Stripe

- Coronet
- Half Pastern
- Sock
- Stocking
- Half Cannon
**Reading a Horse’s Ears**

The horse’s ears and actions are the key to his emotions. He can tell you what he is paying attention to and how he feels by the way he uses his ears and the way he acts. Following are some tips to his emotions.

- **Ears forward but relaxed**: interested in what’s in front of him.
- **Ears turned back but relaxed**: listening to his rider or what’s behind him.
- **Ears pointed stiffly forward**: alarmed or nervous about what’s ahead. Looking out for danger.
- **Ears pointed left and right**: relaxed, paying attention to the scenery on both sides.
- **Ears stiffly back**: annoyed or worried about what’s behind him; might kick if annoyed.
- **Droopy ears**: calm and resting, horse may be dozing.

**Other signs you should notice are:**

- **Tucking the tail down tightly**.
  - Danger to the rear.
  - Horse may bolt, buck or kick.
  - Watch out if ears are flattened too!

- **Switching the tail**.
  - Annoyance and irritation:
    - at biting flies, stinging insects or tickling
    - bothersome actions of a rider or another horse.

- **Droopy ears and resting one hind leg on toe**.
  - Calm and resting, horse may be dozing.
  - Don’t wake him up by startling him!

- **Wrinkling up the face and swinging the head**.
  - Threatening gesture of an angry or bossy horse.
  - Watch out for biting or kicking.
Basic Farrier Tools

Hoof Pick  Hoof Knife  Nippers

Driving Hammer  Clinch Cutter  Anvil

Clinch Block  Hoof Protractor  Rasp

Alligator clincher  Calipers  Pritchel
LOWER LEG & HOOF  DRAW A LINE TO THE

- HOOF
- FETLOCK
- ERGOT
- PASTERN
- CORONET BAND
ALL 5 PARTS EQUAL - THE HOOF DRAW A LINE TO:

FROG
WALL
HEEL
SOLE
TOE
10 RULES OF FEEDING

A good understanding of horse nutrition is key to ensuring your horses remain in peak condition all year round, so it is crucial that every horse owner knows the golden rules of feeding. These basic rules can be applied to every horse and will help maintain health and avoid problems associated with poor horse nutrition.

1. Provide access to fresh clean water at all times. The container of the water, be it a trough or bucket should also be kept clean. In a cool climate, an average horse will drink around 18 litres a day (just under five gallons). This can increase to more than double this amount if the horse is working hard in a hot environment.

2. Feed by weight not volume. To ensure you are feeding the correct quantities you need to weigh one scoop of each different type of feed you use.

3. Concentrates must be fed “little and often”. Chaff can be added to the feed to encourage the horse to chew, which will result in easier and more efficient digestion. In practice, feed between two to four feeds a day, depending on work levels. No more than 2kg of concentrates should be fed in one feed. Large intermittent feeds put stress on the horse’s system.

4. Always use high quality feeds. Never be tempted to feed dusty, mouldy or old feed.

5. Feed according to body weight and temperament. Every horse is an individual and adjustments must be made according to how he responds to feed.

6. Make any changes to the diet gradually to reduce the risk of digestive upsets. This applies to both concentrates and roughage, including grass.

7. Don’t exercise directly after feeding. Allow one to two hours after feeding concentrates before working your horse and, if you have worked your horse hard, do not offer a feed of concentrates until they have fully recovered. This allows the digestive system to process the feed most effectively. Fibre feeds can be fed closer to exercise.

8. Feed your horse at the same time each day. Horses are creatures of habit and thrive on a regular routine.

9. Increase feed quantity and energy content according to the level of work your horse has done. Increase his levels of work gradually, too. You may be providing your horse with grazing during the winter, but just how good is grass quality in January? Once the temperature drops to five degrees celcius, grass quality is very poor and will need to be supplemented with hay and concentrates.

10. Feed plenty of good long fibre. Horses have evolved to live on high fibre diets and good fibre levels will help to stimulate a healthy gut function and reduce the risk of digestive upsets. A minimum of 50% of your horse’s diet should be roughage.