



1. Horse Details

Please tick as appropriate

Horse name:

Does your horse have a passport with up-to-date ownership details? Yes No

Passport Issuing Organisation (PIO):

Passport number:

Does your horse have a microchip? Yes No

Microchip number:

Are your current details registered to the microchip with your Passport Issuing Organisation (PIO) and the Central Equine Database (CED)? Yes No



It is important that your horse is passported and microchipped for traceability and biosecurity purposes. If your horse has been imported, you will need to make sure their passport is overstamped by a passport issuing authority in the country the horse now resides in.

For example, if you import a horse from Ireland to England, their passport will need to be overstamped by a UK-based passport issuing organisation. Your horse's microchip should be linked to their passport.

You can find more information on the importance of equine identification and how to check your horse's details are correct on our [Identification: is your horse passported and microchipped?](#) advice page.

2. Lifestyle

Please tick as appropriate

Does your horse have regular physical contact (able to touch/groom/play) with other horses? Yes No

This can include turn out with at least 1 other horse and contact through stable bars/windows/over low walls. Horses are social animals who require contact with other horses as much as possible.





2. Lifestyle (continued)

Please tick as appropriate

Does your horse have a forage-based diet?

Yes No

This includes access to appropriate amounts of forage such as grass, hay or haylage. To meet their biological and behavioural needs, horses should be provided with a diet that is based on forage.



For more information on diet planning, see the Diet section below.

Does your horse have access to turn out?

Yes No

This includes fields and alternatives such as sand/wood chip pens and track systems. Horses should be provided with the opportunity for free exercise and choice (e.g., different environments such as field shelters, sand pits and wood chip areas in their field).

How many hours a day is your horse turned out?

hours

Your horse's living environment should suit their species-specific and individual needs. Remember the 3Fs when considering your horse's lifestyle; Friends, Forage and Freedom.

You can find more about the 3Fs and how to incorporate them into your horse's lifestyle on our [The 3Fs - Friends, Forage and Freedom advice page](#).

3. Health

Please tick as appropriate

Does your horse have any pre-existing health conditions?

Yes No

You can use the table on the next page to keep track of current management of any health conditions as well as when their management/medication needs to be reviewed by your vet. You can also use the table should your horse develop a health condition over the course of the year.





4. Temperature, Pulse and Respiration *(continued)*

Take your horse's temperature and pulse and respiration rates once a day for a week. Make sure the horse is at rest and has not just come in from the field, is not stressed or excited and has not just been exercised.

For guidance on how to take your horse's TPR, see our video ['How to take a horse's temperature'](#) on our YouTube channel.

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Average
Temperature (°C)								
Pulse (bpm)								
Respiration (bpm)								

To work out the average for each measurement, add the readings from all the days together and divide by 7.

bpm: beats/ breaths per minute

Monthly TPR Record

Now you have a record of your horse's normal, resting TPR, take a new reading every month, for a few days following returning home from a competition and at any other times when your horse seems off-colour, to help identify any health issues early.

Date	Temperature (°C)	Pulse (beats per min)	Respiration (breaths per min)

Table continued on the next page





5. Vaccinations *(continued)*

You can use the following table to record your horse’s vaccinations. There is space to record an initial course, if required, plus the annual booster.

Date of vaccination	What was covered? Influenza and/or tetanus	Date of next vaccination	How did your horse behave?*(eg., good to vaccinate, needle shy, etc.)

*Throughout this plan, we will be asking you to evaluate how your horse behaved during certain procedures to ascertain if they may require further training to improve their experience of routine procedures such as vaccinations if they are needle shy.

If you need further behavioural support, including how to find an equine behaviour professional, please visit our [Behaviour advice pages](#).

6. De-worming

The use of diagnostic tests for individualised de-worming programmes bespoke to your horse ensures that horses are only de-wormed when necessary.

By reducing the use of de-worming drugs, this reduces the risk that worms will become resistant to the drugs. It also benefits the environment. In addition, when carried out as a routine, testing may result in lower overall costs.

These diagnostic tests should be carried out alongside appropriate routine management, such as regular poo-picking.

Diagnostic tests include:

Faecal worm egg counts (FWECS)

Identify the number and type of worm eggs present in faeces for some species of worm.

Saliva tests

To diagnose tapeworm burden

Blood tests

To diagnose small redworm burden





6. De-worming *(continued)*



All diagnostic tests are available from your vet, or there are specialist companies that offer an online service for faecal worm egg counts and saliva tests, such as Westgate Labs.

When you receive your horse's results, there should be guidance on whether you need to de-worm your horse and what type of de-wormer to use.

You can find more information on types of worms and how to de-worm safely on our advice pages.

You can use the table below to keep track of what tests need to be done when and their results.

Date of test	Type of test (FWEC, saliva, blood)	Test results	Was a de-wormer recommended and administered?	Type of de-wormer administered	How did your horse behave?	Date next test is due

FWEC, faecal worm egg count





7. Farrier



Your horse's hooves should be examined by a qualified and registered farrier approximately every 6-8 weeks. Some horses may need to be seen more regularly if remedial shoeing or trimming for specific issues is needed. Your farrier and vet can advise you on how long your horse should go between visits.

You can use the table below to record what was done at each farrier visit and how your horse responded to the farrier.

Date of farrier visit	What was done?	How did your horse behave?	Date next visit is due





8. Dentistry

Your horse's teeth should be examined by a vet or qualified equine dental technician at least once a year. Some horses may have to be seen more regularly, such as every 6 months if they are older or have specific issues.

To find a list of fully qualified BAEDT Equine Dental Technicians, visit: [British Association of Equine Dental Technicians](#).

Date of vet/EDT visit	What was done?	How did your horse behave?	Date next visit is due

EDT, equine dental technician





9. Musculoskeletal Practitioners

There are a range of musculoskeletal practitioners available such as veterinary physiotherapists, massage therapists and chiropractors.



It is important to use a practitioner who is qualified, a member of a professional body, insured and ideally a member of a professional register such as the Register of Animal Musculoskeletal Practitioners (RAMP).

It is advisable to check with your vet as to what type of practitioner would suit your horse's specific needs, and the practitioner should be guided by your vet's advice.

Type of practitioner	Date of visit	What was done?	How did your horse behave?	Date next visit is due





10. Tack fitting

Your horse can change shape many times throughout the year. For horses in light work, a tack fitter may be required every 6 months.

For horses in hard work, who have been out of work for a while, who gain weight or are on a weight loss plan, you may need to call out a qualified tack fitter as often as every 3 months as your horse is likely to change shape more often.

Some tack fitters may only be qualified to fit saddles. However, many are now able to also fit bridles and bits.

You can find a qualified tack fitter near you on the [Society of Master Saddlers register](#).

Type of fitter	Date of visit	What was done?	How did your horse behave?	Date next visit is due





11. Diet and Weight Management

How to calculate forage requirements

Forage should make up the bulk of your horse's diet, in some cases nearly 100%. Although this will to some extent be dependent on their condition, most horses should eat approximately 2% of their bodyweight per day.

You can calculate how much forage your horse needs using the formula:

$$\text{Bodyweight (kg)} \times 0.02$$

For example, a 500kg horse should be fed approximately 10kg of forage per day (500kg x 0.02 = 10kg).

How much forage should your horse be fed per day?

Bodyweight (kg):	x 0.02	=	kg
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If your horse needs to lose weight, then your vet may recommend feeding 1.5% of their bodyweight (BW) per day (BW x 0.015), or if they need to gain weight or have health conditions that may affect their ability to maintain weight, vets may recommend feeding 2.5% of their bodyweight per day (BW x 0.025).

Changes to diets should be made under veterinary and/or nutritionist guidance.



It is important to note that the type of conserved forage you feed (e.g., hay or haylage) will have varying amounts of dry matter.

Dry matter is the fibrous part of conserved forages after water has been removed. Hay is dried for longer than haylage, and therefore has a higher dry matter content.

This means that in order to feed the same number of kg of dry matter, you may need to feed more haylage than hay.





11. Diet and Weight Management *(continued)*



Remember, grass is also a type of forage, so if your horse has access to grazing some or all of the time, you need to allow for the grass intake in your calculation and will therefore need to reduce the amount of hay/haylage they receive accordingly.

However, you don't want to compromise the horse's digestive system with prolonged periods without forage, so it is important to think about how the forage is provided to make it last (e.g., use slow-feed hay nets).



For further help calculating how much forage your horse should be fed, you can contact your vet or an equine nutritionist.

12. Feeding Practices



It is important to keep track of your horse's diet, and make sure that their nutritional needs are being met through provision of suitable forage and, where necessary, a vitamin and mineral balancer or a higher energy concentrate feed. Horses that are not in work or in light work, often do very well on a forage-based diet with one meal a day of a vitamin and mineral balancer.

Balancers are designed to ensure that horses receive the correct amount of key nutrients such as vitamins, minerals and sometimes protein, to balance what may be lacking in their forage. Pastures and conserved forage are highly unlikely to contain the correct quantities of nutrients to meet your horse's needs, therefore feeding a balancer is recommended.

To identify the deficiencies in your pasture or conserved forage, you can have them tested.





12. Feeding Practices *(continued)*

You can use the table below to record your horse’s current diet and any dietary changes.

Horses should be fed little and often, so where possible split any concentrate feeds into smaller meals (e.g., feed twice daily rather than once daily). Your horse’s diet may need to change based on workload or season.



Remember, it is natural for horses to drop some weight in winter, and it is normally healthy for them do so, within appropriate levels, if they have no underlying health conditions. Diets should always be based on horses’ individual needs.

Date of diet review	Type of forage (hay, haylage, straw) and amount (kg)	Type of chaff and amount	Type of balancer and amount	Type of additional concentrate and amount (if applicable)	Supplements and amount (if applicable)
	AM				
	PM				
	AM				
	PM				
	AM				
	PM				

Table continued on the next page





12. Feeding Practices *(continued)*

Date of diet review	Type of forage (hay, haylage, straw) and amount (kg)	Type of chaff and amount	Type of Balancer and amount	Type of additional concentrate and amount (if applicable)	Supplements and amount (if applicable)
	AM				
	PM				
	AM				
	PM				
	AM				
	PM				
	AM				
	PM				

13. Weight Management



It is important to monitor and record your horse's weight regularly. This can be done using a weigh tape or a weighbridge.

It is also advisable to fat score (body condition score) your horse at the same time.





13. Weight Management *(continued)*

Please tick as appropriate

Do you know your horse's target weight?

Yes No

Current weight: kg

Target weight: kg

If you are unsure of what your horse's target weight should be, then enlist the help of a qualified equine nutritionist or your vet. They can help you evaluate all the factors that may influence your horse's weight, and use that information to provide an achievable, healthy target weight.

Current fat score:

Target fat score:

2-3/5

For further guidance on estimating your horse's weight, and on the process of fat scoring, please see our [Weight: Is your horse the right weight?](#) advice page.

14. Weight and Fat Score Tracker

You can use the table below to record your horse's weight and fat score every 2 weeks. This will help you identify if you need to make changes to your horse's lifestyle, diet and/or exercise to achieve their target weight/fat score and maintain it.

Date	Weight	Weighing method (weigh tape/bridge)	Fat Score (0 = emaciated, 5 = obese)			Average fat score (add the 3 scores together and divide by 3)
			Neck / Shoulder	Back / Barrel	Hindquarters	

Table continued on the next page



