

# Temperature guide to rugging a horse



Just like us, our horses feel the cold differently. Horses that are regularly stabled or clipped will be more vulnerable to chills than those that are used to living out and may easily overheat if wearing too many clothes.

Before putting a rug (or a heavier one) on your horse, consider all the many variables: Stable management routine, level of work, access to forage, feeding regime and the type and

condition of the horse. Remember rugging less can also help in weight management especially of good-doers who need to lose weight over winter.

The weather itself should also be considered – is it just cold or cold, wet and windy? The wind chill factor can make a real difference on whether horses are warm enough in a lower weight rug.

Temperature	Stabled/ Clipped	Stabled/ Unclipped	Turned out/ Unclipped	Turned out/ Clipped
<b>15 degrees and warmer</b>	Zero fill	Nothing	Nothing	Nothing
<b>10 to 15 degrees</b>	Light weight (100g) or zero fill	Nothing or zero fill	Nothing	Nothing or light weight (100g) or zero fill if wet & windy
<b>5 to 10 degrees</b>	Medium weight (250g)	Light weight (150g)	Nothing or light weight (100g)	Light weight (150g) plus neck cover
<b>Zero to 4 degrees</b>	Heavy weight (300g)	Medium weight (200g)	Nothing or light/medium weight (150-250g)	Medium weight (200g) with neck cover
<b>-10 to zero degrees</b>	Heavy weight (300-400g) with neck cover	Medium weight (200-300g) with liner	Light or medium weight (150-300g) with neck cover	Heavy weight (300-400g) with neck cover plus liner
<b>-10 degrees or colder</b>	Heavyweight (300-500g) with neck cover plus liner	Medium or heavy weight (300-400g) with neck cover	Heavy weight (300-500g) with neck cover	Heavy weight (300-500g) plus liner and/or under blanket and hood

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