

# Horses



Know what your horse needs.



## FOOD AND WATER

- Find out what and how much your horse should eat to stay happy and healthy. All horses need to eat grass but many also need extra food, especially in winter.
- Make sure your horse has access to fresh, clean water at all times – both in the field and in the stable.



## A GOOD HOME

- Get advice about the size of field your horse will need – this is usually a minimum of two acres. It should be in a sheltered position, and well drained.
- Provide a shelter – either in the field, or a stable, to protect your horse from rain or sun.



## COMPANY

- Make sure your horse has other horses, sheep or cattle to keep it company.



## TO BEHAVE NORMALLY

- Make sure your horse gets regular exercise. Horses should not be left in a stable all day long.



## TO BE HEALTHY

- Get to know your horse – you will soon be able to spot the signs if something is wrong and contact your vet if your horse is unwell.
- Make sure a farrier fits your horse with new shoes or trims its feet every four to eight weeks.
- Worm your horse every four to six weeks, or take veterinary advice.

**This is very basic information.** Find out more about what your horse needs. Talk to us on the RSPCA advice line: 0300 1234 555 or visit: [www.rspca.org.uk/petcare](http://www.rspca.org.uk/petcare)

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HORSE CARE

## Your horse deserves the best care possible so make sure you are also prepared to:

- visit your horse at least twice a day to feed, exercise and remove droppings and wet bedding from the stable
- regularly groom your horse – checking for lumps, bumps or bald patches – ask your vet for advice if you are concerned
- have your horse injected against infectious diseases – ask your vet for advice.



Make regular checks to ensure your horse's field is free from poisonous plants such as ragwort, laburnum and yew.

# Did you know...

the law that protects pets has changed? You have a legal responsibility to care for your horse.

Find out more at: [www.rspca.org.uk/petcare](http://www.rspca.org.uk/petcare) or talk to us on the **RSPCA advice line: 0300 1234 555**

0300 numbers are charged at your carrier's national rate, inclusive of call packages.

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