

Winter Hoof Care

Total Hoof Care

- ★ Maintain proper shoeing or trimming intervals. Even though hooves grow more slowly during fall and winter, regular farrier care is important. If shoes are pulled for the winter, hooves may need to be trimmed more frequently.
- ★ Turn horses out at least part of the time. Providing opportunities for exercise builds strong, healthy feet.
- ★ Check and pick hooves daily.
- ★ Keep stalls, run-in sheds clean, warm and dry.
- ★ Remove soiled bedding and manure daily.
- ★ Use pads that prevent ice and snow accumulation.
- ★ Consult with your veterinarian about how often to apply hoof dressing.
- ★ Maintain anti-thrush measures. In milder winter conditions, mud can create as big a problem as snow and ice.
- ★ Use increased traction devices. Borium calks, grips and plastic shoes improve traction in slippery winter conditions.

Total Horse Care

- ★ Feed a comprehensive hoof supplement. Stall-fed horses are most likely to suffer dietary deficiencies.
- ★ Supplement vitamins A and E. Hay is the main source of these nutrients, but levels can drop to less than 20% of normal by winter's end.
- ★ Check mineral levels in broodmare diets. Add a balanced mineral or vitamin/mineral supplement if necessary.
- ★ Feed, good quality, high fiber hay.
- ★ Monitor stools for undigested grain or looseness. Confined horses are more likely to develop poor digestion. At the first sign of trouble, feed probiotics.
- ★ Feel their ribs. Thicker winter hair coats make horses look heavier than they really are. You should be able to feel the ribs by applying slight to moderate pressure.
- ★ Continue flu and rhino vaccinations.
- ★ Maintain your deworming schedule.
- ★ Maintain routine tooth care.

Record Of Farrier/Veterinarian Visits

Farrier: _____ Telephone: _____

Veterinarian: _____ Telephone: _____

Horse	Date	Work Performed	Next Appointment
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

PRINT OUT AND MAKE MULTIPLE COPIES FOR USE IN YOUR HORSESHOEING WORK