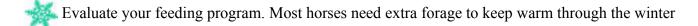
Winter Horse Care Checklist

HEALTH



Check your horse's body condition regularly, as blankets and thick winter coats may disguise a change in weight.

HORSEKEEPING

Pull your horse's shoes for the winter, or switch to winter shoes to provide extra traction and prevent snow build-up.

Check your water buckets and remove ice daily, and even more often in sub-freezing temperatures.

Keep blankets and brushes clean to avoid fostering skin ailments. Make sure your horse is dry under his blankets.

If your horse is stabled, make sure the barn is well-ventilated, and give him as much turnout as possible. Horses tolerate cold weather quite well, but are prone to respiratory problems if kept in a closed barn.

RIDING

Scale down your horse's work in the winter if you need to, but try to keep some type of regular work schedule to keep him fit and healthy.

Make sure your horse is completely cool and dry before putting on blankets or turning him loose. Use coolers to keep him from cooling out too fast and getting chilled.

