



## HORSE Normal Health Parameters

Parameter	Method	Expected Result
Temperature	Rectal thermometer	37.5°C – 38.6°C
Resting Respiration Rate	Observe nostrils flaring or flanks rising and falling. Count for 1 minute	8-16 respirations/minute
Heart Rate	Find a pulse point (an easy one is the digital artery located at medial or lateral pastern) Count pulse for 30 sec then multiply by 2	25 – 40 beats per minute (lower can be normal for some horses – know your own horses normal!)
Capillary Refill Time	Press your thumb on your horses gum, release and count how long it takes for colour to return to area	2 seconds
Dehydration	Skin pliability. Pick a fold of skin on the neck and release it	Quickly returns to original position
Urine	Observe urination	Yellow to brown in colour About 3.5L per day
Faeces	Observe defecation	Colour – tan or yellow to dark green Well formed shape Between 10 – 15 manure piles per day is normal.
Gut sounds	Place an ear or stethoscope on flank area	Lots of grumbling (get to know YOUR horses' normal) Lack of grumbling is NOT normal



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