



This Old Horse Adoption Agreement

With respect to the horse described below, This Old Horse, Inc. agrees to transfer ownership and physical custody of this Horse to the Adopter. In return, Adopter agrees to accept care and custody of the horse and assume all expenses with respect to the horse, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement. This agreement applies to the named Horse and Adopter.

Adopter

First Name

Last Name

Date



Date

Address

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City

State / Province

Postal / Zip Code

Phone Number

Area Code

-

Phone Number

Email

example@example.com

Timeline:

- ☒ I am ready to adopt this horse now.
- ☐ I am interested in a virtual or distance adoption
-

Name of Horse**Year foaled**

Approximate year if unknown

Breed (if known)**Gender****Description**

Identifying markings, tattoos, microchip, registration information, etc.

This Old Horse, Inc. Best Practice Standards and Guidelines

This Old Horse, Inc. often makes use of adoptive homes for equines.

Adopters play a large role in our ability to take in and care for as many animals as possible. However, our adopters must be screened carefully to ensure each placement is in the best interest of the animal/s. Many years of experience have shaped our list of recommendations for successful horse care standards.

Food:

- Adopter will provide feed, hay / forage, mineral and salt.
- Nutritious feed (hay/grain) in sufficient quality (wholesome, palatable and free from contamination such as feces, mold, mildew, insects, dust, etc.)
- Food shall be provided in sufficient quantity and be of adequate and appropriate

nutritive value.

- Diet shall be prepared with consideration for the age, breed/type, condition, size, work level and quantity of equine(s).
- Equines should score, by a veterinarian, no less than a body condition score of 5 on the Henneke Condition Scoring Chart to be considered of adequate weight.
- Equines shall have access to adequate natural forage or be fed daily or as recommended by a veterinarian or by This Old Horse, Inc.
- All storage and feeding receptacles shall be kept clean and free from contaminants such as feces, mold, mildew, insects, dust, etc.
- If more than one animal is fed at one time or in one place, it is the responsibility of the caregiver to separate animals for equal feeding.

Adequate Health Care:

- Adopter will cover the costs of veterinary and farrier care.
- An equine shall be afforded immediate veterinary care if known or suspected to have an injury, accidental or deliberate, or exhibiting such signs as shock, colic, founder, tremors, swelling, broken bones, open wounds, inability to eat or drink, blistering as a result of fire, acid, etc., irregular or abnormal breathing, partial or total paralysis, abnormal discharge or bleeding, signs of disease, severe parasitic infection, loss of appetite, weight loss, abnormal skin condition or hair loss, temperature fluctuation, persistent diarrhea, inability to bear weight on a limb or lameness, or other such signs.
If possible, adopter will notify This Old Horse, Inc. if the horse is transported to a clinic for medical care or regarding euthanasia decisions.
- Hoof care maintenance and trimming every six (6) to eight (8) weeks, or as directed by a veterinarian or farrier.
- Parasites kept under control through a deworming schedule or as directed by veterinarian.
- Annual dental check-up and necessary treatment to ensure proper and adequate food digestion.
- Vaccination as recommended by veterinarian. Proof of annual testing for Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins Test).

Adequate Water:

- Adequate water means clean, potable water available at all times for all equines.
- All water receptacles shall be kept clean and free of contaminants and be positioned or affixed to minimize spillage.

Adequate Shelter:

- An adequate shelter shall have at least a roof and three sides and be kept in good repair and free of standing water, accumulated waste, sharp objects and debris.
- Adequate shelter provides protection from inclement weather conditions (e.g.

prevailing wind, sleet, rain, snow, and arid temperature.)

- It is the responsibility of the owner/custodian to ensure that each equine, taking into consideration age, breed/type and health, has access to proper shelter or protection from the weather (e.g. relief from more dominant equines that may exclude him/her from the shelter).

Adequate Space:

- Space available to the equine must be usable and safe (e.g. must be provided an area free from standing water, accumulated water, sharp objects and debris, and maintained in a safe and healthful manner).
- Equines shall be allowed to exercise and have freedom of movement as necessary to reduce stress and maintain good physical condition. Space and provisions for exercise must be appropriate and sufficient for the age, breed/type, quantity, condition and size of the equines.
- Enclosed areas should be constructed or modified to allow free flow of air to control temperature, humidity and prevent air stagnation.
- Equines kept in stalls must be allowed a minimum of 4 hours of daily turn out in a suitable and safe fenced area large enough for the equine to exercise.
- Fencing shall be well maintained and in good repair at all times. Fencing adequate for equine needs to be highly visible and of a minimum of 4 feet. Barbed wire fencing is not considered an appropriate fencing for equines. All t-posts MUST be capped.

Adequate Companionship:

- Equines are herd animals and are very social. Equines need to be kept with another equine or at least another grazing animal like a goat or cow.

Agreement addendum notes (not required).

The adopter agrees (check each box):

- ☐ To abide by the terms in the adoption agreement
- ☐ To contact This Old Horse if circumstances change and the adopter can no longer properly care for this horse
- ☐ To permit a member of the Placement Team to conduct periodic onsite visits and to request and receive periodic updates
- ☐ Any individual or organization in possession of the equine as of the date of the agreement and any time thereafter is bound to not sell the equine at auction for slaughter or allow the equine to be sold, transferred, released, or otherwise placed into possession of any person or organization that will cause or allow the equine to be sold at auction for slaughter.
- ☐ This horse cannot be sold, traded, subleased or given away. Horses may not be bred, raced or gamed. If for any reason the animal is no longer wanted or care for the animal does not meet the established care standards, at any time, the animal may be returned to This Old Horse.

Signature

[Clear](#)

Submit