



The POMP Horse Owner Peace of Mind Checklist

A practical check-in for your horse's care whether
you're at the yard, at work or away.

A little preparation goes a long way.

Use this checklist to spot the small things that make a big difference: clear routines, useful information, ready to find essentials and a plan for when you can't be there yourself.

A free resource from Peace of Mind Ponies — www.pomponies.com

PRINT IT • TICK IT OFF • KEEP IT WHERE YOU CAN FIND IT

An easy way to stay prepared

Horse ownership comes with plenty to think about. You don't need to have every eventuality mapped out, but a few clear systems can make everyday care easier and help someone else step in confidently when needed. Use this checklist as a starting point, adapting it to your horse, your yard and the advice of your veterinary team.

How to use it: tick what's already in place, add a note where something needs updating, then choose a few realistic actions to complete. It's a working checklist, not a test — and it's fine to build it gradually.

My horse & care details

Horse's name	
Yard / location	
Usual carer / yard contact	
Date checked	

1. Everyday care

The small daily details that help your horse stay comfortable and settled.

☐	Feeding amounts, timings and any restrictions are clear and consistent.
☐	Fresh water is available and water buckets / troughs are checked and clean.
☐	Turnout, stabling and exercise arrangements suit my horse and the current conditions.
☐	Rug choices and changes reflect the weather, my horse's needs and yard arrangements.
☐	Routine checks include appetite, droppings, comfort, behaviour and general demeanour.
☐	Any changes to routine are shared with the people who need to know.

Notes / details to add

2. Health & welfare

Knowing what is normal for your horse makes it easier to notice when something changes.

- ☐ I know my horse's usual appetite, behaviour, movement and social habits.
- ☐ I know what is normal for their drinking, droppings and general comfort.
- ☐ Veterinary, dental, farrier and vaccination records are current and easy to locate.
- ☐ Medication or supplements have clear instructions, including dose and timing where applicable.
- ☐ Any ongoing conditions, sensitivities or relevant history are recorded and shared appropriately.
- ☐ I know who to contact for advice if I notice a change or have a concern.

Notes / details to add

3. Emergency preparedness

Keep key details together so you're not searching for them under pressure.

- ☐ My vet's practice number and out-of-hours contact details are saved and accessible.
- ☐ The yard manager / emergency contact details are current.
- ☐ A backup person can be contacted if I am unavailable.
- ☐ The horse's identity, location, relevant medical information and any essential instructions are easy to find.
- ☐ I know the yard's emergency procedures, including who can authorise veterinary treatment if I cannot be reached.
- ☐ People caring for my horse know to seek veterinary advice promptly when concerned, rather than waiting for a reply from me.

Notes / details to add

4. When someone else cares for your horse

A good handover gives a carer the information and confidence to follow your horse's normal routine.

- ☐ Feeding instructions include the correct feed, quantity, preparation and timing.
- ☐ Turnout, stabling, rugging and exercise preferences are written down clearly.
- ☐ Handling notes cover quirks, sensitivities, safe approaches and anything that may worry my horse.
- ☐ Important health information, medication instructions and warning signs are shared.
- ☐ Contact details are provided in order of priority, including a backup if I cannot be reached.
- ☐ The carer knows where to find feed, equipment, first-aid supplies and any relevant records.
- ☐ I have explained what the carer may decide independently and what needs my approval.

Notes / details to add

5. When you are away

For holidays, work commitments, illness or an unexpected change of plans.

- ☐ A named, responsible person has agreed to oversee my horse's care.
- ☐ Dates, visit frequency and the exact care required have been confirmed.
- ☐ The carer knows how and when to update me, and what would warrant an immediate call.
- ☐ Feed, bedding, medication and other essentials will last for the planned absence, with a sensible buffer.
- ☐ Any appointments, deliveries or expected yard changes have been communicated.
- ☐ A backup arrangement is in place if the usual carer becomes unavailable.
- ☐ I have shared where the latest care instructions and emergency details are kept.

Notes / details to add

6. Stable & equipment organisation

Make the everyday essentials easy to identify and safely accessible.

- ☐ Feed is labelled clearly and stored appropriately; instructions are visible where useful.
- ☐ Buckets, scoops and preparation equipment are clean and easy to identify.
- ☐ Rugs, headcollars, lead ropes and other regular equipment are labelled or easy to distinguish.
- ☐ Essential equipment is in good condition and suitable for my horse.
- ☐ First-aid supplies are organised, in date where relevant, and stored safely.
- ☐ Important paperwork and contact details are kept together, with a digital copy if helpful.
- ☐ The carer knows where items are kept and how to return them after use.

Notes / details to add

7. Peace of mind review

Take a moment to look over your answers. You don't have to fix everything at once — focus first on anything that affects your horse's welfare, safety or ability to get help when needed.

- ☐ I can quickly find the information someone would need to care for my horse.
- ☐ If I could not get to the yard tomorrow, I know who could step in.
- ☐ If I were unexpectedly unreachable, the right people would know what to do.
- ☐ My instructions are clear enough for someone unfamiliar with my usual routine.
- ☐ I have identified any gaps that need attention and chosen a first step.

What would make me feel more prepared?

Three Things I Can Do Today

Small, specific actions are easier to finish than a perfect plan. Choose three that would make the biggest difference for you and your horse.

1.	My action	
	By when	
2.	My action	
	By when	
3.	My action	
	By when	

A little more peace of mind, one step at a time.

POMP believes thoughtful care is about more than getting the jobs done. It's about helping horse owners feel confident that the details are understood and their horses are in good hands.

Want to take your planning a step further?

Keep an eye out for POMP's upcoming ***Horse Handover & Holiday Care Pack***, designed to help you share practical care instructions with the people looking after your horse, and the ***Ultimate Horse Owner Peace of Mind Planner***, for bringing the wider details of horse ownership into one organised place. This checklist is your simple starting point; those resources will offer more structured, in-depth planning.

Thank you for caring so thoughtfully. Save this checklist, print a fresh copy when your arrangements change, and share it with someone who may find it useful.