



What Horses Need Whether They Are Ridden or Not	Costs
<p>Food</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">⇒ 15-25 lbs a day depending on size, temperament and work being done⇒ free choice salt⇒ good quality hay – watch for mold and dust, foxtail, thistles<ul style="list-style-type: none">• grass (timothy and brome most common, slough hay has little nutritional value)• legume (alfalfa most common)• grass/alfalfa mix⇒ concentrates depending on work – no more than half the total ration, normally much less<ul style="list-style-type: none">• oats or other grains – whole, rolled or cracked• sweet feed – grain mix with molasses• pellets• beet pulp – used as bulk, must be soaked before feeding⇒ can also feed alfalfa cubes instead of hay or complete feed pellets instead of hay and concentrates – however, horses need chew time to be content so except for veterinary reasons, most people feed some hay.⇒ mineralized salt block should be available free choice <p>Feeding guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• feed little and often – twice a day minimum• feed at regular times• allow an hour between work and feeding	<p><i>costs vary according to the harvest – the more feed available in a particular year, the cheaper it is – prices also vary among feed mills</i></p> <p><i>hay typically costs from \$2 to \$4 a square bale depending on the year and the quality of the hay</i></p> <p><i>concentrates are usually sold in 20 or 25 kg bags</i></p> <p><i>least expensive concentrate for horses is usually clean whole oats at \$5.50-\$7.50 for 25 kg</i></p> <p><i>individual salt block under \$2, pasture block under \$10</i></p>
<p>Water</p> <p>5 - 10 gallons a day available free choice year round</p>	<p><i>stock tank \$200 heater \$30-\$40 electricity</i></p>
<p>Shelter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• living outside – 3 sided shed• barn – box stall, daily turnout• bedding – straw or shavings• stall bedding cleaned daily – deep enough for comfort and cleanliness	<p><i>straw \$1-\$2 a bale shavings \$8 per 4 cubic foot bag or \$160 approx. (cost depends on distance from source) a large truckload</i></p>
<p>Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• many different boarding arrangements from space on someone's acreage to full service boarding stable• board fee normally covers food, water, shelter, bedding, stall cleaning and turn out• important to choose facility with care	<p><i>prices vary according to facilities, services provided and location with an indoor arena</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>inside board \$250-\$350 and up</i>• <i>outside board \$100-\$250</i>
<p>Hoof Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• trim by farrier every 6 to 8 weeks• shoes if needed – shoes all round, or shoes on fronts• daily hoof cleaning if horse confined	<p><i>\$15-\$25 trim \$80-\$100+ shoes</i></p>

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Deworming	regular parasite control program – consult vet for advice – usually paste worm every 2 months with rotating products	\$10-\$20
Dental Care	teeth checked and floated by veterinarian as needed, often annually wolf teeth removed	varies
Inoculations	consult vet – usually annual 4 way shot (EEE, WEE, tetanus, rhino) plus flu shots as required	\$40-\$50 plus barn call
Veterinary Care	common problems – lameness, colic, injuries when in doubt, call the vet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mileage • examination • treatment • medication
Exercise	self exercise during daily turnout exercise under saddle or on lungeline	

Additional Care Requirements for Ridden Horses		Costs
Grooming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grooming tools – curry comb, dandy brush, body brush, mane comb, hoof pick, sponge or stable rubber, sweat scraper, shedding blade • basic grooming before riding, paying particular attention to saddle and girth area • thorough grooming after riding – wash down with plain water if appropriate • occasional bath if necessary • geldings need their sheaths cleaned periodically • the well-dressed horse wears mane and tail according to breed/sport fashion - bridle path, full or pulled mane, braided for show, full or pulled tail, natural or banged • stabled, blanketed horses can be clipped in winter - full body clip or trace clip 	<i>grooming tools range from \$1 for hoof pick to \$20 for some brushes</i>
Regular Work and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build up to one hours work 6 days a week • warm up, cool down • vary routine, trail ride • have the horse trained by a qualified person • learn to ride properly • realize that riding is an athletic activity requiring physical fitness, coordination, and sensitivity – ride within your capabilities • adjust your riding to the footing 	<i>lessons range from \$10 to \$50 and up depending on riding level, facilities, and qualifications of instructor</i>
Tack Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use well-fitting tack • clean leather tack once a week • use clean, well-rinsed saddle pads • use leg protection if necessary – splint boots, bell boots, polo bandages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>your tack may well cost more than your horse</i> • <i>it's better to buy a good second hand saddle than a poor quality new one</i>