

Equine emergency kit contents

Prepare a thorough and clearly labelled kit containing necessary supplies in advance tailored to the local risks and horses. Ensure it is stored in a central and visible location and is clearly labelled. Waterproof and pest-proof containers are recommended to prevent spoiling. Contents should be checked for expiration and updated at least every six months or when new horses are introduced to the property. Additional items not included on this list may also be advised.

Documentation and Identification

Include the following:

- ☐ Printed emergency plans tailored to your property for varying circumstances including step-by-step actions
- ☐ Horse identification records for each horse on the property (updated regularly): Name, sex, age, colour, brandings, markings, recent photos, and microchip number (if applicable)
- ☐ Veterinary records for each horse: vaccination history, previous medical conditions, including any current medications and doses
- ☐ Proof of ownership (where available)
- ☐ Emergency contact list including owner/manager, backup carer(s), regular and after-hours veterinarian, transport provider (if applicable), and evacuation facility contact
- ☐ Mobile battery charger and power bank
- ☐ Battery power or hand-crank radio for staying up to date with changing conditions

Feed and water supplies

Include the following:

- ☐ Portable water containers which can supply 20-30 litres per horse per day
- ☐ Buckets labelled per horse as needed
- ☐ Hay nets or bags
- ☐ Zip ties for safe bucket hanging
- ☐ Minimum of 7-10-day supply of food per horse, with a preference towards familiar foods to minimise the risk of colic (e.g. hay, pelleted or hard foods)
- ☐ Waterproof tarps to protect feed from elements
- ☐ Feed scoops
- ☐ Salt blocks or loose salt
- ☐ Electrolyte powders and dosing instructions

First aid and veterinary supplies

Include the following:

- ☐ Saline for wound irrigation
- ☐ Needles and syringes
- ☐ Tweezers
- ☐ Antiseptic solution or spray
- ☐ Wound cream or ointment
- ☐ Cotton wool or gauze
- ☐ Non-adherent dressings
- ☐ Cohesive bandages (e.g. VetWrap)
- ☐ Stable bandages and adequate padding
- ☐ Strong, waterproof adhesive tape
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Disposable gloves
- ☐ Monitoring tools including digital thermometer and stethoscope
- ☐ Notebook and pen for recording vitals and treatments
- ☐ Include a 7-10 day supply of any medications needed for specific horses with clearly written instructions including dose, frequency, and route of administration

Handling and restraint equipment

Include the following:

- ☐ A strong, well-fitting halter for each horse labelled with the horse's name, including spares
- ☐ Lead ropes for each horse, including spares
- ☐ Additional identification materials such as zip-ties and waterproof baggage tags or engraved metal tags, breakaway neck collars with ID, and non-toxic marking tools such as livestock paint crayons
- ☐ Horse blindfold
- ☐ Sturdy leather gloves for prevention of rope burn during handling

Transport and evacuation equipment

Include the following:

- ☐ Float and transport vehicle and keys
- ☐ Spare tyres and jack
- ☐ Wirecutters

- ☐ Adequate fuel level and additional fuel (stored safely) if necessary
- ☐ Horse transportation gear as needed, including tail wraps, travel boots, and head bumpers
- ☐ Strong torches and headlamps for visibility if night loading is needed
- ☐ High visibility vests for handlers

Temporary containment and shelter

Include the following:

- ☐ Portable electric fencing or tape with needed insulators and connectors
- ☐ Portable fence posts and mallet for installation
- ☐ Battery or solar fencing unit with spares
- ☐ Tarps or shade cloth for weather protections
- ☐ Extra rope or baling twine

Hygiene and biosecurity supplies

Include the following:

- ☐ Hand sanitiser for handlers
- ☐ Animal-safe disinfectants
- ☐ Basic cleaning supplies, including bleach and dish soap
- ☐ Scrub brushes for cleaning and disinfecting supplies
- ☐ Paper towels
- ☐ Waste bags
- ☐ Hoof picks and basic grooming tools
- ☐ Fly and insect repellent sprays

Human safety and support items

- ☐ Drinking water for humans
- ☐ Portable and shelf-stable snacks
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Hat and protective clothing for weather
- ☐ Dust and smoke proof masks
- ☐ First aid kit for humans
- ☐ Whistle or alarm