

Horse Ownership Quiz[®]

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IMPORTANT: This Quiz is intended as a guide only and the list of questions is not exhaustive. The purpose of this exercise is to ensure you are fully aware of the hard work, time and financial commitments that go hand in hand with responsible horse ownership.

If you can answer “**YES**” to the questions below you are likely ready to take on the responsibility of buying a horse.

- Have you had riding lessons from a reputable establishment (or experienced horsey friend) on a regular basis for a minimum of one year (at least once a fortnight in all weather conditions)

YES/NO

- Do you feel confident at controlling a horse in walk, trot and canter in open spaces?

YES/NO

- Have you spent time at a local riding school helping out and handling the horses on the ground to familiarise yourself with the daily requirements of horse care or undertaken a Stable Management course?

YES/NO

- Can you tack up and untack a horse, put on stable and field rugs and understand the basic functions of a bridle, saddle and grooming equipment?

YES/NO

- Have you asked friends if you could take care of their horse (s) while they are on holiday as a trial run before considering buying a horse of your own?

YES/NO

- Have you planned your daily routine (work, childcare, school run, housework) to fit around caring for a horse?

YES/NO

- If your horse is to be kept at a livery yard, do you understand that you will need to attend morning and evening to carry out stable chores and ensure your horse is warm and fed whatever the weather or what's on TV?

YES/NO

Cont'd ...

Cont'd ... (2)

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- Have you scheduled time to exercise your horse each week ? The amount of exercise will vary depending on the temperament of the horse and the type of riding activities you choose.

YES/NO

- Have you set yourself a budget for buying a horse? If so is this affordable for you and realistic in order to secure the type of horse you want?

YES/NO

- Have you calculated a realistic monthly budget to cover regular expenses in connection with caring for your horse (shoeing, worming, vaccinations, insurance, stabling and grazing, feeding and bedding? Is this affordable for you on an ongoing basis?

YES/NO

- Have you set aside money to cover “contingency expenses” – petrol costs to and from the yard, emergency vet bills or replacement equipment?

YES/NO

- Have you identified suitable facilities for stabling and grazing for your horse within a reasonable travelling distance of your home?

YES/NO

- Have you personally inspected these facilities eg checked fencing, field size and stabling to ensure they are of a high standard and not likely to cause injury to your horse?

YES/NO

Cont'd ...

Cont'd ... (3)

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- Have you spoken to other horse owners to gauge their opinion on the facilities provided?

YES/NO

- Have you identified the most suitable breed and age of horse in view of your level of competence and experience as a rider?

YES/NO

- Have you considered what type of personality your horse should have and written down a list of traits you require? eg bombproof in traffic, excellent stable manners, etc.

YES/NO

- Do you have a friend or family member that could look after the horse if you become ill or are away on holiday?

- **YES/NO**

BUYING A CHILD'S PONY (answer the questions below if considering buying a child's pony)

- Even though your child is interested in riding, are you as a parent sufficiently knowledgeable in horse care to take responsibility for the pony's welfare?

YES/NO

- If you are buying a child's pony, are you prepared to put in the hours to look after the pony while your child is in school or doing other activities on weekends?

YES/NO

- Have you considered what will happen once your child outgrows the pony? Will you re-home the pony responsibly?

YES/NO