



# READY UNTIL THE VET ARRIVES

## Equine First-Aid Kit Checklist

Keep a complete, clearly marked kit in the barn, trailer, and trail gear. Store each kit where it can be reached quickly, and make sure everyone knows its location.

|                     |                                                                                               |                     |  |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Kit location</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> Barn <input type="checkbox"/> Trailer <input type="checkbox"/> Trail | <b>Date checked</b> |  |
| <b>Veterinarian</b> |                                                                                               | <b>Phone</b>        |  |
| <b>Farrier</b>      |                                                                                               | <b>Phone</b>        |  |

### 1. Container and Basic Tools

- ☐ Clean, waterproof, tight-sealing container
- ☐ Headlamp or flashlight with fresh spare batteries
- ☐ Rectal thermometer and lubricant
- ☐ Stethoscope and disposable gloves
- ☐ Safety scissors and tweezers or hemostats
- ☐ Wire cutters and emergency knife or seatbelt cutter
- ☐ Duct tape and an instant cold pack
- ☐ Equine first-aid reference

### 2. Wound Care and Bandaging

- ☐ Sterile saline or another clean wound-rinsing supply
  - ☐ Antiseptic scrub approved by your veterinarian
  - ☐ Nonstick sterile pads and gauze squares
  - ☐ Gauze rolls, padding, and absorbent dressings
  - ☐ Self-adhering wrap and adhesive tape
  - ☐ Large clean syringe without a needle for flushing
  - ☐ Veterinarian-approved wound products only
- Do not put antiseptic or ointment in or near an eye unless your veterinarian directs you to do so.

### 3. Veterinary-Directed Items

- ☐ Every medication is clearly labeled and unexpired
  - ☐ Written dose, route, storage, and use instructions
  - ☐ Electrolytes or other treatments only as advised
- Do not give medication unless your veterinarian directs you. Pain relievers can mask important signs and may be harmful if used incorrectly.

### 4. Ready Before an Emergency

- ☐ Vet, farrier, referral hospital, and helper contacts are in the kit and phone
- ☐ Each animal's normal temperature, pulse, and respiration are known and recorded
- ☐ You can take vital signs, clean a wound, and apply a safe bandage
- ☐ Copies of current health and medication records travel with the animal
- ☐ The kit is checked at least annually; expired or damaged items are replaced

**Horse or mule**

**Normal resting vital signs**

Temp \_\_\_\_\_ Pulse \_\_\_\_\_ Resp. \_\_\_\_\_

#### CALL THE VETERINARIAN PROMPTLY

Heavy bleeding; deep, puncture, eye, joint, tendon, chest, or abdominal wounds; severe lameness; breathing difficulty; neurologic signs; or abnormal vital signs. Do not pull out an embedded object.

Knowledge belongs in the kit, too. Ask your veterinarian to teach you how to use every item you carry. A first-aid kit helps you stabilize an injured horse or mule until professional care is available. It does not replace the veterinarian.

| ITEMS TO REPLACE OR RESTOCK | EMERGENCY NOTES |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
|                             |                 |