

USPA Body Condition Score Chart

Score

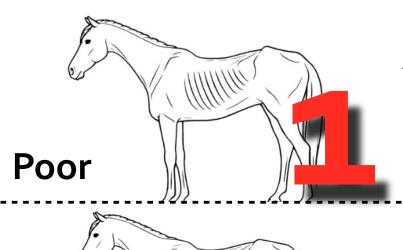
Neck

Shoulder Withers

Ribs

Loin

Tail-head



extremely thin extremely thin very prominent very prominent very prominent very prominent

Description: This horse is emaciated. The spinous processes (backbone, ribs, tail-head, and hooks and pins all project prominently. The bone structures of the withers, shoulders, and neck are noticeable and no fat can be felt anywhere.

very thin

thin

very thin

thin

moderately thin moderately thin moderately thin

very thin

thin

prominent

see easily

outline of ribs

prominent

fat cover 1/2

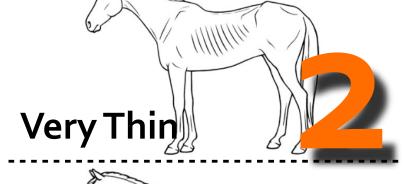
way up

negative crease

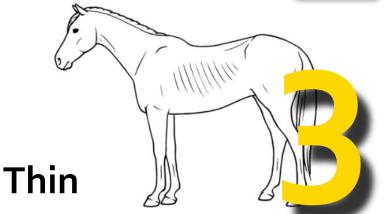
very thin

prominent

some fat



Description: The spinous processes are prominent. The ribs, tail-head, and pelvic bones stand out and bone structures of the withers, neck, and shoulders are faintly discernible.



Description: The spinous processes stand out, but fat covers them to the midpoint. Very slight fat cover can be felt over the ribs, but individual vertebrae cannot be seen. Hook bones are visible but appear rounded. Pin bones

cannot be seen. The withers, shoulders, and neck are accentuated.



Description: This horse has a negative crease along its back and the outline of the ribs can just be seen. Fat can be felt around the tail-head. The hook bones cannot be seen and the wither, neck, and shoulders do not look

obviously thin.

blend into shoulder

blend smoothly

rounded

little fat

cannot see, easily feel

cannot see, can

feel

level

ideal fat cover

fat

Ideal

Description: The back is level. Ribs cannot be seen, but easily felt. Fat around the tail-head feels slightly spongy. The withers look rounded and the shoulder and neck blend smoothly into the body.



Description: There may be a slight crease down the back. Fat around the tail-head feels soft and fat over the ribs feel spongy. There are small deposits along the sides of the withers, behind the shoulders and along the

sides of the neck.

little fat

average fat

average fat

flush behind

little fat

average fat

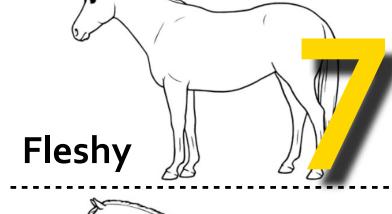
fat filled

barely feel

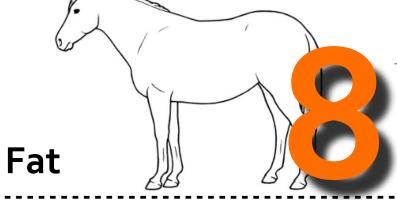
crease

slight crease

fleshy fat



Description: There may be a crease down the back. Individual ribs can be felt, but there is noticeable fat between the ribs. Fat around the tail-head is soft. Fat is noticeable in the withers, the neck, and behind the shoulders.



Description: The horse has a crease down the back. Spaces between the ribs are so filled with the fat that the ribs are difficult to feel. The area along the withers is filled with fat, and the fat around the tail-head feels very soft. The space behind the shoulders is filled in flush and some fat is deposited along the inner buttocks.

Extremely Fat

bulging fat

fat

bulging fat

bulging fat

cannot feel (patchy fat)

difficult to feel

very obvious crease

obvious crease

bulging fat

very soft fat

Description: The crease down the back is very obvious. Fat appears in patches over the ribs and there is bulging fat around the tail-head, withers, shoulders, and neck. Fat along the inner buttocks may cause the buttocks to rub together, and the flank is filled in flush.