



USPA Body Condition Score Chart

| Score | Neck | Shoulder | Withers | Ribs | Loin | Tail-head |
|---|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
|  <p>Poor</p> | extremely thin | very prominent | extremely thin | very prominent | very prominent | very prominent |
|  <p>Very Thin</p> | very thin | very thin | very thin | prominent | prominent | very thin |
|  <p>Thin</p> | thin | thin | thin | see easily | fat cover $\frac{1}{2}$ way up | prominent |
|  <p>Moderately Thin</p> | moderately thin | moderately thin | moderately thin | outline of ribs | negative crease | some fat |
|  <p>Ideal</p> | blend into shoulder | blend smoothly | rounded | cannot see, easily feel | level | ideal fat cover |
|  <p>Moderately Fleshy</p> | little fat | little fat | little fat | cannot see, can feel | slight crease | fat |
|  <p>Fleshy</p> | average fat | average fat | average fat | barely feel | crease | fleshy fat |
|  <p>Fat</p> | fat | flush behind | fat filled | difficult to feel | obvious crease | very soft fat |
|  <p>Extremely Fat</p> | bulging fat | bulging fat | bulging fat | cannot feel (patchy fat) | very obvious crease | bulging fat |

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

ADOPTED FROM THE HENNEKE BODY CONDITION SCORING SYSTEM