EQUINE KNOWLEDGE

Missing Words Worksheet: Grooming & the Horse's Hooves

Instructions: Fill in the missing words to complete each sentence. Check your answers are correct on the website: go to Care A → Grooming & the Horse's Hooves → Worksheet Answers.

1. Inherently horses will take care of their own skin. The following list naturally helps remove loose or dead hairs and exfoliate their skin:
    1. r…… in mud or dirt.
    2. s……. on trees or similar.
    3. mutually g……. each other.
    4. weather: the rain w……. their coat and skin, the w…… blows off excess hair and dirt, and the s…….. aids in the production of Vitamin D.

2. Putting r……. on equines can prevent them being able to naturally care for their own skin, hence why g……. them is important.

3. Benefits of grooming:
    1. To improve the horse's overall a……
    2. To promote health and prevent d……..…
    3. To assess the horse's h……..…
    4. For c……
    5. To check the health of the h……..…
    6. To bond and create a r…… with the horse.
    7. To stimulate c……
    8. Improve your f……..…

4. The grooming brushes must be regularly c…….. for hygiene, and to prevent the spread of d……..…

5. The body brush is a s…… bristled brush, designed to remove d…… and g…… from the horse's coat. It should be used in conjunction with the metal or plastic c…… comb to prevent dirt being brushed back on to the coat.

6. The body brush can be used on a…… areas of the horse's body. It should be used sparingly on g……..……-k…….. horses, who don't wear r……, as it removes the g……. from the skin essential for resistance against the elements.

7. The dandy brush is a h…….. bristled brush used for removing surface m…….. and d…… from the coat.

8. The dandy brush is not suitable to use on c…… or s……..……. areas as it can scratch the s…….. and cause discomfort to the horse. Additionally, it should be avoided on the m…….. or t…….. as it can thin the hair.

9. The flicker brush is a l……. bristled brush, designed for flicking away d…… and l…… hairs on the coat.

10. The m……. curry comb is used to clean the b…… brush. It should n……. be used on the horse.

11. The face brush is a s……, soft bristled brush designed to groom the horse's f……..…

12. The p…….. curry comb is a plastic bristled brush used to remove m…….. and loose h……. from the coat. Not to be used on the m…….. and t…… as it snaps and thins the hairs.

13. The r…….. curry comb is used in a c…….. motion all over the body. It is designed to be used when the horse is m…… to remove loose hairs.

14. The stable rubber is used to remove d…… and add s…… to the horse's coat. It is performed all over the horse's body a…..…… grooming.

15. The cactus cloth is used all over the horse's body to remove surface d…… and d……, plus to create a s…… on the coat.

16. The mane and tail brush is a w…….. bristled brush designed to groom the mane and tail, whilst limiting the amount of hair l……..…

17. The shedding blade is designed to be used when the horse is m……..… It is also suitable for getting rid of caked on m……

18. The rubber grooming mitt is a g…… way of removing mud from s…… areas of the horse's body. It is also ideal for removing l…….. hair, when the horse is moulting, or as a m…… tool.

19. The sweat scraper is used to remove excess w……. or s……..…… from the horse's coat.

20. A grooming block is used to remove l…… coat when the horse is m…… It is also ideal for removing caked on m……..…

21. A hoof pick is designed to remove d……..… and s……..… from underneath the horse's hooves.

22. There should be ……. sponges in different colours, one for the n…….. or mouth and one for the d…… To prevent the spread of i……., a sponge should not be used on the horse's e……, instead use d…….. wipes or c……. wool soaked in sterile water.

23. R…….. edge scissors are used for general t…….. on the horse's feathers and beard etc.

24. A solo comb is used for s…….. the horse's mane.

25. The grooming box is a c…….. used to s…… the grooming kit.

26. Safety tips for grooming a horse:
    1. Always t……. up the horse whilst grooming.
    2. Be o…… of the horse's mood whilst grooming, especially on s…… areas.
    3. Never k……. or s…….. down whilst grooming.
    4. However familiar you are with the horse, never c…….. underneath their belly.
    5. Never position yourself in an area where you could be t…….. in the stable.
    6. Wear a h…… hat when grooming.
    7. When standing directly behind the horse, stand as c……. to their hind legs as possible.
    8. Use your v…….. to make sure the horse knows where you are at all times.
    9. Never groom with g……. on.

27. Grooming should be adapted to the horse's s…… type and changes in the c……..… throughout the year.

28. The r…….. curry comb, grooming b…….. or s…….. blade will help to remove the moulting coat. When the weather warms, b…… the horse will remove any excess grease and loose hair.

29. On clipped areas of the horse skin s……-bristled brushes should be used. The rubber grooming m…….. or grooming b…….. will remove mud or dirt.

30. For thicker winter coats l…….-bristled brushes are more suitable. The d……..…. brush and p…… curry comb are ideal for removing mud and dirt from the coat.

31. On fine coats or sensitive skin very s…….. bristled brushes should be used for general grooming. The r……. grooming mitt or grooming b…… can remove mud or loose coat.

32. In colder weather, stable-kept equines who are c…… or f…… coated should be groomed in a r……. to prevent them getting c……..…

33. On a s……..-kept horse, grooming prior to exercise is designed to give the equine a q…… groom to s……. them up. It should take around ……-…….. minutes.

34. Grooming after exercise is performed, when their p…… are open, to improve the a……. and create a s…… on the horse's coat and skin. It generally takes around ……. minutes to complete.

35. The outer, visible part of the horse's hoof is made up predominantly of the w……., s…… and f…… Its main purposes are to bear the w…… of the horse, provide natural p…….. to the internal structures of the hoof, and reduce c…….. during movement.

36. An approximate rate of hoof growth is …… inch every …….. weeks. Therefore, the optimal time period between the horse's hooves being trimmed or re-shod is ……-……. weeks.

37. Reasons for trimming hooves:
    1. To remove e…….. hoof growth.
    2. To b…….. the hooves.
    3. To maintain c……. of the hooves.

38. Reasons for shoeing:

Protection:
    1. To prevent excess w…….. to the hoof wall.
    2. To maintain the c……. of the hoof wall.
    3. To maintain the b…… of the hooves to reduce concussion.

For the comfort of the horse.
    1. To allow the horse to move across h…… or uneven terrain, without becoming foot s……
    2. To enable the horse to work h……, without becoming foot sore.

To protect against different weather conditions:
    1. Dry, hard land can cause the hooves to become b…… This can lead to bruised soles and c……. of the wall.
    2. Constant wet conditions can cause the hooves to become s……..… This can lead to bruised soles, weakening of the wall and foot infections.

Health reasons:
    1. Corrective shoes are used to help improve conformational d……, or correct a gait abnormality.
    2. Medical or remedial shoes are used in conjunction with v……. treatments.
    3. P…… can aid with hoof health and medical conditions.

Providing grip:
    1. Permanent Studs: Road studs offer some g……, and prevent the shoe w……. down too quickly.
    2. Temporary studs: used to offer grip and provide a better foothold whilst the horse is j……., or during f……. work.

39. Lack of farrier care can cause:
    1. Changes in structure to the natural b……. of the hooves.
    2. B…… hoof pastern axis.
    3. Contracted h……
    4. C…… in the wall of the hoof.
    5. Hoof w…….. over-growing the shoe.
    6. Excessive strain on the lower limb m…… system.
    7. Issues affecting the horse's stance or m……..…
    8. L……..…
    9. Hoof a……

40. Signs the hooves need re-shoeing or trimming:

Re-shoeing:

    1. O……. hooves over the shoe.
    2. C……. hooves affecting the shoe, or clenches.
    3. Risen c……
    4. A l…… shoe.
    5. A t…….. or worn shoe.
    6. A s……. shoe (the shoe is held on by one or two nails).
    7. A c……. shoe (a lost shoe).
    8. The horse is d…… to be shod.
    9. L……. in association with the shoe (nail bind or pricked hoof).
    10. The shoe needs to be removed for m…….. purposes.

Trimming:

    1. L…… hooves.
    2. U…… hooves
    3. C…… hoof wall.