

Normal Vital Signs



Call your veterinarian if T >102.5°F

	Horse	Cow	Llama	Sheep & Goat	Pig
Temperature (F)	99-101.5	100-102.5	99-101.8	102-104	100.5-104
Pulse (beats/min)	28-40	40-80	60-90	70-80	60-80
Respiration (breaths/min)	8-16	10-30	10-30	10-20	10-20
Gestation (days)	330-345	280	335-350	150	114

*** Temperature can be variable if the animal has been stressed or traveling.

NORMAL VITAL SIGNS	Temperature (F)	Heart Rate (beats per min)	Respiratory Rate (breaths per min)
Adult Horse	98-101.5	28-44	8-16
Newborn Foals	99-102	80-100	20-40
Sheep / Goat	102-104	70-80	10-20
My Horse: (name and date)			

TEMPERATURE Insert the thermometer rectally approximately 1 to 2 inches so that it rests against the rectal wall. Hold the thermometer in place for 30 seconds.

HEART RATE If you have a stethoscope in your barn, place the bell of the stethoscope on the horse's left side, behind his elbow. Listen for the heart sounds "lub-dub, lub-dub." Each "lub-dub" sound is counted as one beat. Count the total beats over one minute. This is the horse's heart rate. If you do not have a stethoscope, sometimes you can feel the horse's heart beat with your hand held in the same position (thin horses).

RESPIRATORY RATE Watch your horse's ribcage move in and out. You can also look at his nostrils flare open and closed. Count the number of breaths he takes over one minute.

MUCOUS MEMBRANES Look at your horse's gums. Note the color and the moisture.