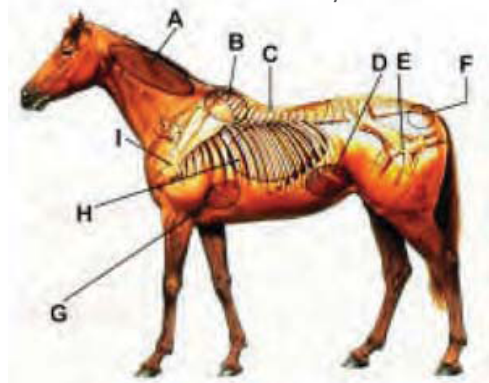


BODY CONDITION SCORING CHART

Body Condition Scoring (BCS) is an objective system of evaluating a horse's level of body condition (amount of stored fat) and assessing a numeric score to facilitate comparisons between horses. Many owners fail to recognize significant variations in the weight of horses or variations due to age and breed types. This often results in overfeeding or underfeeding.



Areas of Emphasis for Body Condition Scoring

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A. Thickening of the neck | F. Fat deposits around tailhead |
| B. Fat covering the withers | G. Fat deposit behind shoulder |
| C. Fat deposits along backbone | H. Fat covering ribs |
| D. Fat deposit on flanks | I. Shoulder blends into neck |
| E. Fat deposits on inner thigh | |

1 POOR

Animal extremely emaciated; spinous processes, ribs, tailhead, tuber coxae, and tuber ischii projecting prominently; bone structure of withers, shoulders, and neck easily noticeable; no fatty tissue can be felt.

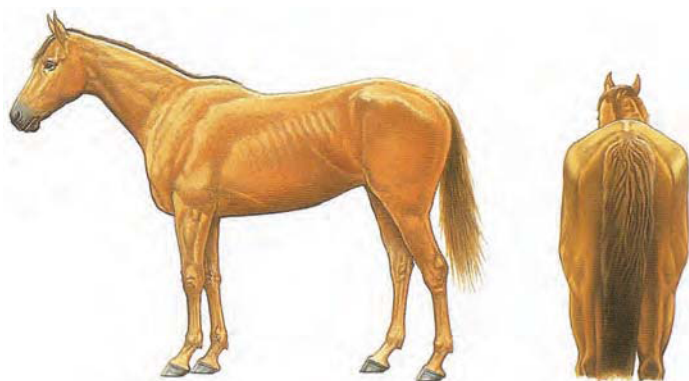
2 VERY THIN

Animal emaciated; slightly fat covering over base of spinous processes; traverse processes of lumbar vertebrae feel rounded; spinous processes, ribs, tailhead, tuber coxae, and tuber ischii prominent; withers, shoulders, and neck structure faintly discernable.



3 THIN

Fat buildup about halfway on spinous processes; traverse processes cannot be felt; slight fat cover over ribs; spinous processes and ribs easily discernable; tailhead prominent but individual vertebrae cannot be identified visually; tuber coxae appear rounded but easily discernable; tuber ischii not distinguishable; withers, shoulders and neck accentuated.



4 MODERATELY THIN

Slight ridge along back; faint outline of ribs discernable; tailhead prominence depends on conformation, fat can be felt around it; tuber coxae not discernable; withers, shoulders, and neck not obviously thin.



5 MODERATE

Back is flat (no crease or ridge); ribs not visually distinguishable but easily felt; fat around tailhead beginning to feel spongy; withers appear rounded over spinous processes; shoulders and neck blend smoothly into body.



6 MODERATELY FLESHY

May have slight crease down back; fat over ribs fleshy/spongy; fat around tailhead soft; fat beginning to be deposited along sides of withers, behind shoulders, and along sides of neck.



7 FLESHY

May have crease down back; individual ribs can be felt, but noticeable filling between ribs with fat; fat around tailhead soft; fat deposited along withers, behind shoulders, and along neck.



8 FAT

Crease down back; difficult to feel ribs; fat around tailhead very soft; area along withers filled with fat; area behind shoulder filled with fat; noticeable thickening of neck; fat deposited along inner thighs.



9 EXTREMELY FAT

Obvious crease down back; patchy fat appearing.