

RWG HORSEMANSHIP

Understanding Your Horse

SIGNS OF A RELAXED HORSE

- Licking lips
- Lowering head
- Blinking
- Deep exhale
- Cock a foot
- Relaxed ears
- Blowing the nose

SIGNS OF A FRUSTRATED HORSE

- Swishing of tail
- Pinning ears
- Stomping hoof
- Shaking head
- Snarling of nostrils
- Signs of fear or anxiety
- Wide eyes
- Flaring of nostrils
- Snorting
- Not standing still
- Head high and muscles tight

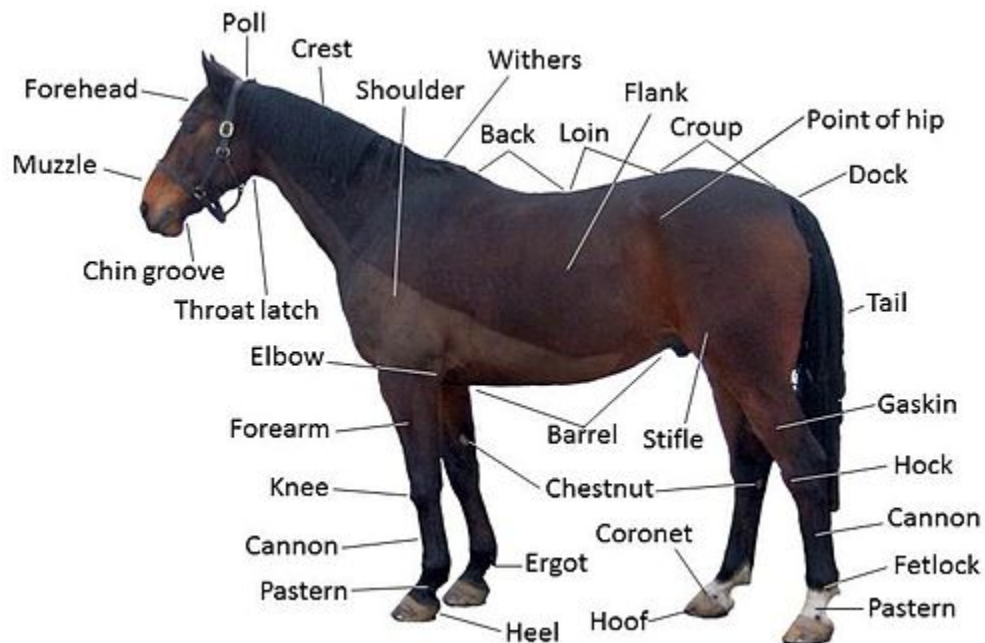
HOW DOES A HORSE SEE?

- Two Blind spots, directly in front and directly behind. This is why we approach the shoulder in a non-threatening way, with shoulders relaxed, in a slow manner.

HOW TO READ A HORSE'S EAR

- Pinned back flat against neck=angry
- Turned back when under saddle=listening to rider
- Pricked straight forward=focusing on something ahead
- Droopy and floppy ears=doesn't feel well
- One ear forward and one back=paying attention to something ahead and something behind

HORSE ANATOMY



GROOMING YOUR HORSE

- Start at the front of the horse working from top to bottom.
- Metal Curry-used to remove dried sweat and mud, not to be used on the legs or face

OR

- Rubber Curry-used to remove mud, sweat and bring dirt to the surface of the coat, use in circular motion
- Hard Brush-brings the dirt to the surface of the hair
- Soft Brush-flicks dirt off coat and brings the oils out of the coat to leave your horse looking shiny
- Hoof Pick

Horse's should be thoroughly groomed before each ride. Grooming is a time to bond with your horse and inspect your horse for any scrapes, bites or swelling.