

# Pre-Purchase Exams



## What is the purpose?

The purpose of a pre-purchase examination is to determine the health and fitness of a horse. This examination is designed to protect the horse, buyer, and seller. Sellers can be confident in the health of the horse they are selling; buyers can be confident in their purchase; the horse gets an in-depth examination that helps everyone know exactly what the horse needs.

## Who needs a pre-purchase exam?

We recommend any horse transferring ownership undergo a pre-purchase exam. Sometimes, you do not know there is a problem until you do the right test. Other times, you do not know the seller and want to confirm things like age or soundness.



## Components:

- Physical Exam; head to toe exam, looking for abnormalities with external exam.
- Conformation Exam: This is an evaluation of the physical structure of the horse.
- Neurologic Exam: evaluates neurologic function of the horse and assesses the muscle tone/function
- Passive Lameness Exam: standing examination to evaluate for pain or tenderness to physical manipulation through normal range of motion and palpation.
- Hoof tester Exam: A tool is applied to all four feet to evaluate for soreness in the bottom of the hoof (sole, bars, heels, and frog).
- Active Lameness Exam: This evaluates the horse at a walk and trot. Horses are evaluated using the AAEP Lameness Scale.
- Flexion Lameness Exam: During this part of the exam, we flex the joints of each limb for a measured period of time and immediately watch them trot off. Flexion of affected joints will typically exacerbate lameness, therefore allowing us to detect subtle lameness that might not be obvious otherwise. These flexions also aid in better localizing where on the limb the patient is sore.

## Optional Add-ons:

- Drug Testing – To test for pain meds or sedatives that may mask lameness or behavioral concerns
- Survey Bloodwork – Organ function and signs of disease
- Coggins/Health Certificate – we can hold blood for up to 10 days if you decide to purchase and need one or both of these items
- Radiographs
  - Standard PPE w/ radiographs: Both front feet, hocks, and stifles
  - A la carte: choose areas you are concerned with or areas the vet recommends

## Prices:

- Standard PPE – NO RADIOGRAPHS - \$400
- PPE with Standard Radiographs - \$1788
- Any Add-ons will be in addition to the base \$400

**\*\*All pre-purchase examinations require a \$250 deposit upon booking\*\***



**Please note: You will receive a phone call same day, but official reports may take up to 24 hours.**