

Tips and Interesting Horse Facts

- Horse's hooves grow at a rate of about 1cm per month.
- The forelock on a horse's head helps to keep flies out of the eyes.
- Horse's legs are built so that they can sleep standing up, but to get a good rest they need to lie down.
- Each leg has a small spot that looks like a scar called a 'chestnut'.
- Horse's kneecaps are not done fusing until they are about 3 1/2 years old. That's why many young racehorses are injured
- A horse's heart weighs about 10 pounds.
- A horse's back cannot bend; it remains stiff when the horse moves. That's why it's hard for horses to get up after rolling or resting.
- The teeth take up more room in a horse's head than its brain does.
- Horses can see color.
- Horses can see in two directions at once.
- Horses have two blind spots where they cannot see- directly in front of them, and directly behind them.
- Human hair and fingernails are made from the same protein as horse hooves.
- Horses have 36-42 teeth.
- Most breeds of horses have 18 ribs, 6 lumbar bones, and 18 tail vertebrae. Arabians have 17 ribs, 5 lumbar bones, and 16 tail vertebrae.
- A full-grown horse that weighs about 1,000 pounds contains approximately 13.2 gallons of blood.
- Horses have about 175 bones in their body.
- Horses make 8 basic sounds- snorts, squeal, greeting nicker, courtship nicker, maternal nicker, neigh, roar, blow.
- It is almost impossible for a horse to vomit-- if they do, their stomachs usually rupture soon after.
- It takes a horse 60 days to double it's birth weight. And takes 10-12 months to be born.
- A horse focuses its eye by changing the angle of its head, not by changing the shape of the lens of the eye, as humans do.
- While horses graze, they keep a look out for predators.
- A racehorse averages a weight loss of between 15 and 25 pounds during a race.
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