

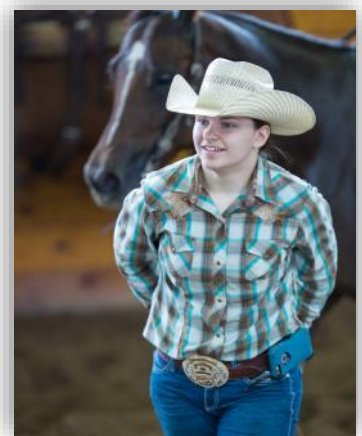
Pennsylvania Cutting Horse Association

DECEMBER 2018



Memories and friends, two of our favorite things for the holidays!

Happy Holidays



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A WORD FROM OUR SECRETARY

On behalf of the PCHA I hope that everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season and found time to spend with their family and friends (and your horses). We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and all the best in 2019.

We once again would like to extend our thanks to all those who have so generously supported us in 2018. What a great bunch of people who make up our cutting family!

Please check out the jewelry auction - some wonderful and new pieces.

This will be the last newsletter for 2018. If anyone has any ideas or topics they would like to see in 2019 please let us know.

Happy Holidays
Joanne Thayer PCHA Sec

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Please email your newsletter submission to Joanne Thayer or Pankey Nelson

Original pictures and graphics only. Letters to the Editor must be signed, non-slanderous, and in good taste. PCHA reserves the right to edit submissions.

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THANK YOU!

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Silent Auction Fundraiser

Vintage Native American Jewelry, sterling and 14k gold, with gemstones and/or etching. Graciously donated by Sandra Brown to benefit the PCHA.



Sterling Silver Link Bracelet
7 1/2" long, each link inlaid with turquoise and coral, sterling silver with safety chain
Starting bid \$250



Owl Crystal Sterling Silver Pillbox
1.5" x 3/4" high
Starting bid \$300



Signed JACKSON Cuff Bracelet
Sterling silver with 1" lapis stone
Starting bid \$500



Sterling Silver Navajo Cuff Bracelet
Signed Navajo RB, sterling silver inlaid with multiple semi precious stones, turquoise, coral, onyx, lapis, bone and more.
Starting bid \$500



Vintage Native American Cuff Bracelet
Zuni sterling silver
multi stone inlay 6" long by 1" wide
Starting bid \$250



Vintage Zuni watch & band
Sterling with turquoise, lapis, coral & malachite.
Signed Earl Plummer
Starting bid \$200



Vintage Clip Earrings
2 3/4" long Zuni turquoise, coral & sterling silver
Starting bid \$200



Sterling Cuff Bracelet
Coral inlay
Hallmarked and signed Kee Nez
Starting Bid \$200

Native American Jewelry

Vintage Sterling Silver and 14k Gold

**NEW
PIECES
ADDED!**



Rabbit pin
2" long, a pearl at each end,
Diamond chip body with Ruby eye
Starting bid \$100



Vintage Slide
4" long sterling silver, opal stone and 14k gold
Ginkgo design slide. Signed by artist
Starting bid \$250



Sterling Silver Necklace
3" Pendant
with Coral inlay,
Decoratively engraved
Includes elaborate chain.
Hallmarked
Starting bid \$250



Pendant
2" long
sterling silver
turquoise stone
Starting bid \$100

Argentina Inca
Rose Stone Ring
sterling silver
size 6
Starting bid \$50



Turquoise Ring
Size 9
Starting bid \$100

Argentina Inca
Rose Stone Ring
Rolled 14k gold
size 7
Starting bid \$50



14k Gold Necklace
with Turquoise and Coral
semi precious gems Hallmarked
Starting bid \$250

**Bids open January 1
to April 8, 2019**

HORSE-INSPIRED VACATIONS

You Need To Take in 2017 (or 2019!)

AQHA article by Holly Wilson, published January 5, 2017

Near or far, there are plenty of horsey destinations located all around the world! It might be a bit harder to get to some of them, but the views and memories will be worthwhile. This list is the ultimate bucket list of horse vacations for 2017!

- Ω Hawaiian islands. If you like warmer weather and a good sandy beach, you're in the right place. The Hawaiian islands have many different kinds of horseback excursions. In an excursion up to a Maui guest ranch, you can enjoy the coastal views and top it off with a helicopter flight over the forest the movie "Jurassic Park" was filmed in!
- Ω Ireland. Not short on outdoor scenery, Ireland is a dream destination for any horse lover. Take a ride through Dunfanaghy, a beautiful coastal village in remote Ireland. The empty beaches make for a great galloping stretch. Then, afterwards, grab a drink at an authentic Irish pub.
- Ω Colorado. No matter the time of year, Colorado is a beautiful destination for horse lovers. Aspen and Vail are popular destinations, and you can enjoy your time in winter wonderland from the comfort of a horse-drawn carriage. What better way to travel than to take a ride through the snow?
- Ω The Bahamas. The white sand beaches and crystal-clear water are a draw for equestrians, especially when you get to swim with horses! There are a variety of businesses that allow you to swim bareback on their horses, who love the water just as much as you do. It's a horse lover's paradise.
- Ω Europe. Take a jaunt across the pond to ride in France, Greece or Italy! All three are beautiful destinations with their own unique cultures. Take a ride through the Italian vineyards and enjoy a good Italian wine, or take a tour up to the castles and caves of Malbec, France. With an abundance of activities and delicious food, you'll never want to come home.
- Ω Arizona. With miles of trails and scenic views, you'll be nothing short of speechless. There are even guided tours that take you down into the depths of the Grand Canyon and allow you to camp out under the stars. What a dream!
- Ω Canada. Take a jaunt through Quebec and explore the rural country and rich history that Canada has to offer. If you travel through Equitours, you even have the opportunity to work some cattle!
- Ω Virginia. Have you ever wanted to go fox-hunting but lacked the wherewithal to do it? Welcome to Virginia! Take an adrenaline-filled ride through the Blue Ridge Mountains with fellow horse-lovers and a pack of good dogs. It's an experience you'll never forget!



Grand Canyon Trail, viewed from the top

11 Tips for Riding Horses in Winter

Prepare Your Horse (and Yourself) for Cold Weather Riding



Katherine Blocksdorf, November 5, 2018

- Ω **Provide More Grip** If you plan to ride, and the ground is slippery ask your farrier about shoes with pads and ice calks. Special pads will prevent snowballs and may help prevent ice bruising on their soles. Ice calks on a horse's hind hooves can cause a lot of damage if they kick another horse with these. So you may want to shoe the front hooves with calks and leave the hinds bare, but trimmed. Untrimmed hooves chip easier in frigid weather, so don't skip farrier appointments just because it's winter.
- Ω **Adjust the Workload** When riding in the snow remember that it is harder work for the horse than traveling on bare ground. Plan your time in the saddle and your speed accordingly. Think of what it's like for you to flounder through the snow--deep snow can be similar for your horse.
- Ω **Slow Down** Plan to school or work at a slower pace so your horse does not sweat as much. Cooling down can take much longer, and chilled muscles take longer to warm up. Horses sometimes need time to adjust to the footing in an arena if they're used to walking on frozen, uneven ground and their gaits may feel a bit stilted until they learn they can step out with confidence.
- Ω **A Wet Horse Can Get Cold** Plan extra time to cool down after your ride. Don't put a sweating horse out in the cold, wind or damp. Blanket so that moisture wicks away from your horse's coat, and change the blanket if it becomes damp. When the horse is dry to the skin, you can turn it out.
- Ω **Keep Muscles Warm** If your horse is used to being stabled and blanketed consider using a 'rump rug' or 'quarter sheet' to keep his muscles from getting chilled while riding. Try the rump rug before you get on, however, so your horse gets used to the feel of it. You don't want it spooking at the strange blanket over its haunches when you're in the saddle.
- Ω **Dress in Layers** Dress yourself in layers that can be removed easily if you get warm while working your horse. Fabric that wicks sweat away and dries quickly is best for any athletic winter activity. There is a variety of under and outerwear made especially for riders. Ear warmers can be worn under your helmet, or hoods can be put over your helmet.
- Ω **Wear Safe Boots** You may want to wear warmer boots while riding in the winter. Be sure they are not so bulky as to get wedged into your stirrups. They should still slide out easily if you take a spill.
- Ω **Prevent Snowballs** If snowballs form in hooves while you ride, give the bottom of your horse's hooves a coating of petroleum jelly.
- Ω **Avoid Hazards** When riding out, make sure you stay away from areas where holes, branches, poles or other hazards might be hidden under the snow. Injury to you and your horse could occur if the horse trips or falls over a something hidden under the snow cover.
- Ω **Warm the Bit** A frosty cold bit can be uncomfortable for your horse. Keep bridles in the house, warm the bit with your hands, or put a warm (not hot) gel pack around the bit before putting it in your horse's mouth.
- Ω **Bring a Snack** Pack a granola bar and a vacuum flask of hot cider or chocolate to warm you up after your ride. Working hard in cold dry weather can be dehydrating so don't forget to drink water or pack along a bottle of water or sport drink too.

SHOULD I BLANKET MY HORSE IN THE WINTER?

Dr Lisa Nesson, irongateequine.com January 1, 2016

The high in Madison, WI today is -4°F, it currently feels like -23°F, and we're all miserable about it! Because we're all thinking about our horses standing in this cold weather, we're here to tackle the omnipresent blanketing question. "Should I blanket my horse in the winter?"

WHAT ABOUT THE HAIR COAT?

If your horse has been allowed to grow a full winter coat, that winter coat is more than capable of keeping them warm, provided you're meeting a few prerequisites. The full hair coat is very insulating so long as the hair is allowed to stand up. If it's raining out, the wet weather will flatten the hair coat and destroy those insulating qualities. In this case, you'll need to make sure you have a well rated water-proof winter blanket, or a shelter for your horse to stand under. Similarly, if your horse has even a light blanket/sheet on, the hair will no longer be able to stand up, and will lose all of its insulating qualities. You shouldn't put just a light blanket on – you really need to go all the way with a fully rated winter blanket, have blankets available for different temperatures or let them grow out a hair coat.

Thus, if your horse has been body clipped or has not grown a full coat, for whatever reason (recently moved from a warmer climate, or was kept under lights for show reasons) and they haven't grown a full winter coat, that horse will probably need to be blanketed at the temperatures we're experiencing at this time of year.

PREREQUISITES TO NOT BLANKETING

Plenty of responsible horse owners have happy horses without blankets. There are, however, some prerequisites to this strategy.

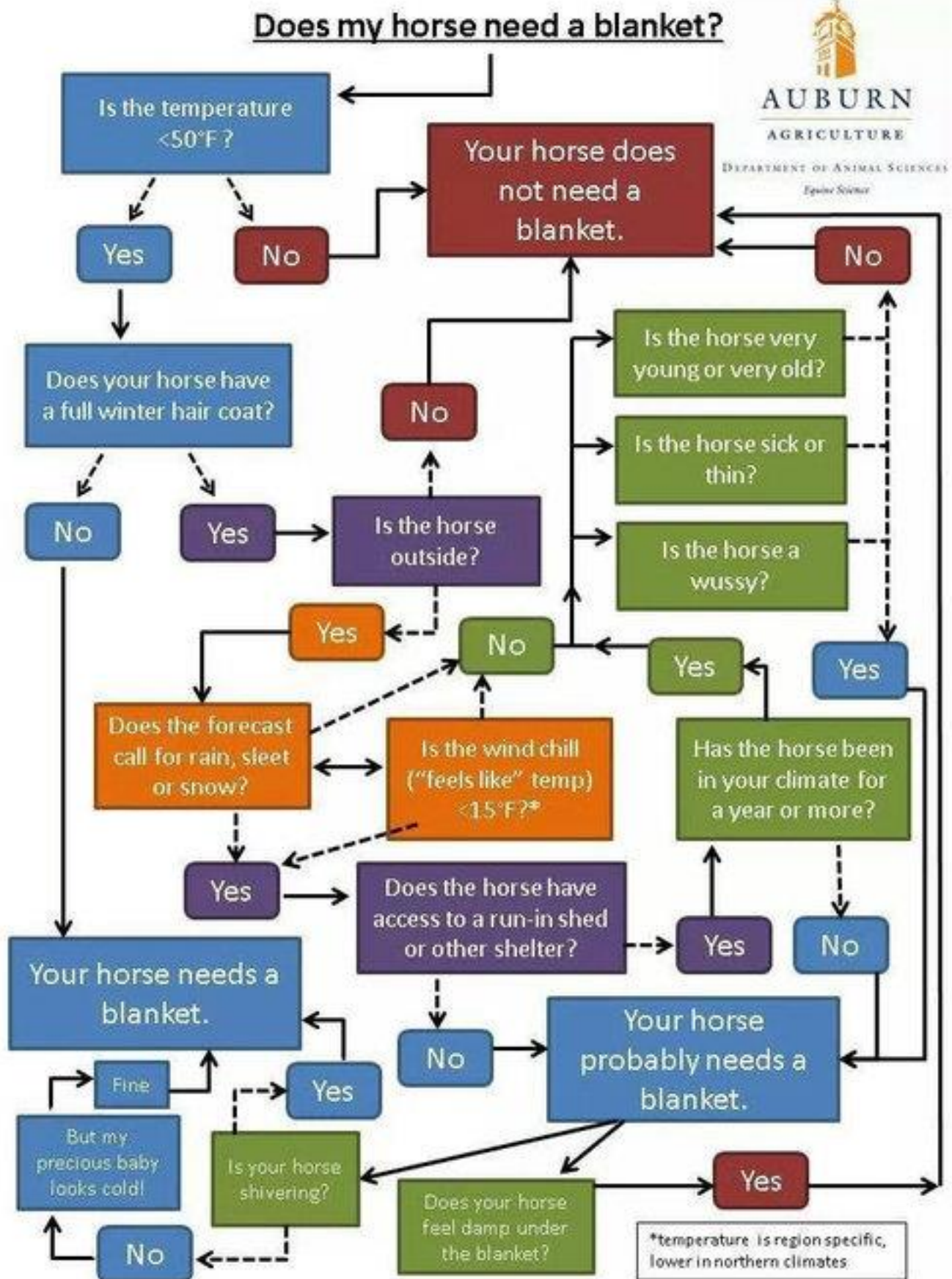
- Ω Your horse needs a full winter hair coat. See above for reasons why.
- Ω Your horse should have some sort of shelter outside. A three-sided shed is quite adequate. You may be able to use a windbreak in the form of a wall or line of trees. Three sided sheds should be south facing and big enough to allow room for all horses into the shed.
- Ω Is the weather going to be raining or sleeting? If it is, that rain will wet down the horse's hair coat. Once that coat is laying flat, it loses its insulating qualities. You'll probably need a waterproof blanket unless your horse uses a shed consistently.
- Ω They need to have water, and plenty of it. It needs to be open, it can't be frozen, and it needs to be accessible. That last bit is particularly important! You may have water available, but if there's an ice rink surrounding your water bucket, your horses may not drink because they don't want to cross the ice. So make sure that there's safe passage to the water by preventing excessive spillage in warmer temperatures.
- Ω They need to have plenty of forage available. Your forage can be in the form of long stem hay or hay cubes, or various other forage sources, but it needs to be available. You can read what Dr. Howard Ketover says about feeding your horse in the winter to understand why forage is so important (hint: it's what keeps them warm).
- Ω Age matters – your horse may need a blanket if they're very young or very old. The very young and the very old may require blanketing to help them maintain their body condition.
- Ω Your horse needs to be healthy. If your horse has been ill, or is already in poor body condition, having them blanketed will help them conserve their energy towards maintaining their body condition, rather than staying warm.

THE BLANKETS

Now that you've decided that your horse does need a blanket, you need to make sure you buy an appropriate blanket. Here are your guidelines:

- Ω It should be well fitted, so that they don't rub at the withers or the shoulders.
- Ω The blanket straps should be fitted close to their body so that they don't get their legs tangled and it limits the blanket from slipping and rubbing.
- Ω It needs to be rated for the weather they're turned out in. If they're rated for colder weather, they may get warm and start sweating. If they're wearing a blanket that's not rated heavily enough for the cold weather that they're in, then that blanket is laying their hair coat down, and is probably doing them more damage than good in terms of keeping them warm. This may mean that you need to have more than one blanket for the fall and winter seasons.
- Ω If your horse is out in the rain or sleet, they should be in a waterproof blanket. That may be a waterproof sheet that's thrown over a heavier blanket, or a water proof blanket. Again, if they get soaked through the blanket, they lose the insulating ability of the blanket as well as the hair coat.
- Ω The blanket should be checked and removed every couple of days. You'll need to do this to make sure it is still fitting the way it should, and so that you can check the horse's body condition under the blanket to make sure they haven't lost too much weight in the cold weather.

SHOULD I BLANKET MY HORSE IN THE WINTER?



Warmest Wishes for a Beautiful Season to all our PCHA Family

Happy Holidays

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