



## Standards of Care for Adopted Horses

At Spirit Walker Ranch, our priority is the long-term safety, well-being, and dignity of every horse. The following standards outline the minimum level of care required for adoption.

By adopting, you agree to provide consistent, responsible, and humane care as outlined below.

---

### 1. Shelter & Environment

- Horses must have access to **safe, secure shelter** (barn, stall, or run-in) that provides protection from extreme weather (heat, cold, wind, and rain)
  - Property must include **adequate space for movement and turnout**
  - **Fencing must be safe, visible, and well-maintained** (no barbed wire or hazardous materials)
  - Environment must be kept **clean and free of hazards**
- 

### 2. Nutrition & Water

- Horses must have access to **clean, fresh water at all times**
  - Provide **quality forage (hay and/or pasture)** appropriate for the horse's needs
  - Feed program must support **healthy body condition**
  - Supplements or special diets must be followed if required for the horse
- 

### 3. Veterinary Care

- Provide **routine veterinary care**, including vaccinations and wellness exams
- Maintain **current deworming schedule** as recommended by a veterinarian

## MINIMUM STANDARD REQUIREMENTS FOR ADOPTING HORSES

- Seek **prompt medical attention** for illness, injury, or signs of distress
  - Follow any **ongoing medical care plans** disclosed at adoption
- 

### 4. Hoof & Dental Care

- Maintain **regular farrier care** (typically every 6–8 weeks or as needed)
  - Ensure **routine dental care** to support proper health and nutrition
- 

### 5. Companionship & Social Needs

- Horses must not be kept in isolation
  - Provide **appropriate companionship** (other horses or compatible animals)
  - Support the horse's emotional well-being through **consistent, calm interaction**
- 

### 6. Handling & Training

- Horses must be handled in a **safe, humane, and respectful manner**
  - No use of abusive, neglectful, or harmful training practices
  - Training must be appropriate for the horse's **age, health, and experience level**
- 

### 7. Workload & Use

- The horse must not be overworked or used beyond its physical ability
  - Any riding or work must align with the horse's **training, condition, and limitations**
  - Some horses may be designated as **companion-only**, and this must be respected
- 

### 8. Ongoing Responsibility

- Adopter agrees to provide **lifelong care or responsible rehoming** if circumstances change
- Horse may **not be sold, transferred, or auctioned** without notifying Spirit Walker Ranch
- Ranch retains the right to **check on the horse's well-being if concerns arise**

## 9. Neglect & Reclaim Policy

Failure to meet these standards may result in:

- Follow-up communication and support to correct issues
  - If unresolved, **the right to reclaim the horse** to ensure its safety
- 

## 10. Acknowledgment

By adopting, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to uphold these Minimum Standards of Care and understand that they are in place to protect the well-being of the horse.

**Adopter Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

**We're here to support you.**

Our goal is not just placement—but lasting, successful matches. If you ever need guidance,