

Ultimate Horse Blanketing Guide

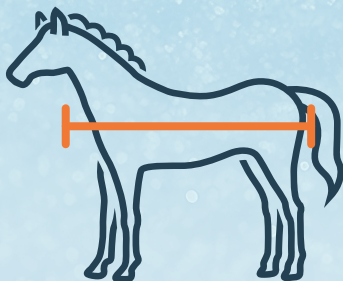
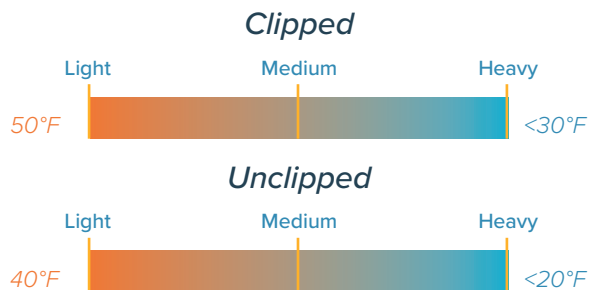
Know when, why, and how to blanket your horse.

A Horse's Natural Defense Against Cold

A horse's winter coat traps body heat by fluffing up — but that's not always enough.

Age, living conditions, and body type all impact their ability to stay warm unaided.

What Blanket Weight Should You Use?



How to Measure for the Right Fit

1. Start at the center of the chest.
2. Run the tape over the point of the shoulder and down the length of the body.
3. End where the tail meets the buttock.

That's your horse's size in inches!

5 Things That Influence Blanketing Decisions

Hair/Coat Type

- Full winter coat? May be OK without a blanket.
- Clipped or slow-growing coat? Likely needs one.



Living Situation

- Has access to shelter? May not need extra coverage.
- Exposed to the elements? Use waterproof protection.



Age

- Older horses struggle to regulate temperature.
- A blanket helps them conserve body heat safely.



Body Condition

- Easy keepers: more insulation = less need.
- Hard keepers: blankets prevent calorie loss.



Climate & Acclimation

- LCT = the lowest temp in which a horse must increase metabolic heat to maintain a normal body temperature.
- Depends on coat, fat, shelter access, and local norms.
- Consider rain, moisture, wind, and relative humidity alongside the temperature.



Pro Tip: Be Prepared!

Even if your horse is usually unblanketed, having the right gear on hand before a storm hits can make all the difference.

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