

# HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO OWN A HORSE?

(Average sized 1000 lb Quarter horse-2026)

## REQUIRED:

### 1. Feed:

HAY: 2/3 bale a day  
\$15/bale  
Assuming you need to feed hay every day, then:  
 $365 \text{ days} \times 2/3 \times 15 =$   
**\$3,650/year**

GRAIN: 2-4 quarts/day moderate type feed such as 10% protein  
(1) 50 lb bag lasts about 30 days and costs about \$22-33

$22 \times 12 = \$264/\text{year}$

**FEED needs are  
HIGHLY VARIABLE**

Salt blocks 2 a year = \$20/year

2. Farrier: Trim \$50-60 every 10 weeks  
 $52/10 \times 50 = \$260/\text{year}$

### 3. Deworming:

Ivermectin  $2 \times 2 \times \$10 = 20$

Tapeworm  $2 \times 2 \times 15 = 30$

Total = \$50/year

### 5. Veterinary

Vaccinations \$350/year

Coggins \$55

Dental floating \$250

Sedation \$60

Call fee  $2 \times \$250$

**Total \$965/year**

**HARD COSTS = \$5,209/year**

## OPTIONAL BUT COMMON:

1. Bedding: Assuming horse in stall 8 hrs/day

**Bulk \$400/year** per horse

Bagged \$10 each

2 bags week  $\times 52$

$10 \times 2 \times 52 = \$1040$  year in

bagged bedding

2. Shoeing: all 4 every 6 weeks = \$200-300

$52/6 \times 200 = \$1083/\text{year}$

### 3. Board:

Field board: \$250-450/month

Stall board: \$400-1,200

Varies widely depending on location, facilities and services offered.

AVG Field: **\$3,600/year**

AVG Full Board: **\$10,800/year**

### 4. Training/lessons:

\$50-200/hr

### 5. Barn help/pet sitter

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### Additional costs to consider:

Tack and equipment

Liability/Farm Insurance

Daily medications

Special needs horse such as young, geriatric, chronic disease.

-Veterinary emergencies such as colic, illness, eye problems, foot abscess, lacerations etc \$2,000/year. Health insurance can offset this cost.