

Horse Purchase Agreement

TEMPLATE · VERSION 1.0 · OCTOBER 2026

An agreement for the sale of a horse or pony between a seller and a buyer. Fill in the blanks, tick the options that apply and strike out those that do not.

Not legal advice: check locally before you sign

This template is a general starting point written by EquiMarket. It is not legal advice and it is not tailored to any country. Rules on the sale of animals, consumer rights, warranties, VAT and the transfer of ownership differ between countries, and some rights that the law gives to buyers, especially consumers buying from a business, cannot be reduced by contract. Have the completed agreement checked by a lawyer or other qualified adviser in the country whose law will apply before either party signs. EquiMarket is not a party to this agreement and accepts no liability for its use.

How to use this template

- ☐ Complete every section, or write "not applicable".
- ☐ Attach Annex A (Seller's disclosure) and, once available, the vet's report.
- ☐ Both parties initial each page and sign two copies, one for each party.
- ☐ Use Annex B (Handover receipt) on the day the horse changes hands.

I. The parties

Seller

Full name or company name

Address

Email and phone

Company / VAT number (if any)

The Seller is selling

- ☐ as a private individual
- ☐ in the course of a business (e.g. dealer, breeder, trainer)

Buyer

Full name or company name

Address

Email and phone

Company / VAT number (if any)

The Buyer is buying

☐ as a private individual

☐ in the course of a business

2. The horse

Name in passport

Competition / registered name

UELN (Universal Equine Life Number)

Microchip (transponder) number

Passport issued by and passport number

Studbook and breed

Sex: mare / gelding / stallion

Colour and main markings

Date of birth

Height (cm)

Sire · Dam · Dam's sire

FEI ID (if any)

The horse is identified by its passport and microchip. The Seller confirms that the passport and microchip belong to this horse and that the description in the passport matches it.

3. Price and payment

Purchase price (amount and currency)

VAT: included / to be added at ___% / not applicable

Deposit (amount) and date paid

Balance (amount) and date due

Payment by bank transfer to (account holder, IBAN, BIC)

Payment is made only to the account named above. A payment counts as made when the funds arrive in that account. Bank charges are paid by: ☐ Buyer ☐ Seller ☐ shared.

If the sale does not go ahead because the vetting condition in clause 5 is not met, the deposit will be ☐ refunded in full within ___ days ☐ dealt with as follows: _____.

4. What is included

Included in the price

- ☐ the horse only
 - ☐ the following tack and equipment:
-
-

5. Pre-purchase examination (vetting)

Vetting

- ☐ This sale is conditional on a pre-purchase examination by a vet chosen by and acting for the Buyer.
- ☐ The Buyer has decided not to have the horse examined by a vet and accepts the risk of buying without one.

Vet and practice

Date and place of examination

Scope agreed (e.g. clinical exam, X-ray views, other tests, blood sample stored)

The Seller agrees to the procedures listed above being carried out. The Buyer pays the vet's fees unless agreed otherwise. If the Buyer is not satisfied with the result, the Buyer may withdraw by written notice to the Seller no later than _____ (date). After that date this condition no longer applies.

6. Seller's information

The Seller confirms that, to the best of their knowledge, the information in Annex A (Seller's disclosure) is true and complete, and that they have not withheld anything they know about the horse that a reasonable buyer would want to know. The Seller will tell the Buyer straight away if anything changes before handover.

The Seller confirms that they own the horse, are entitled to sell it, and that no other person (for example a co-owner, lender or finance company) has any right over it, unless stated here:

_____.

7. Intended use

The Buyer intends to use the horse for

Suitability

- ☐ The Seller makes no statement about the horse's suitability for that use beyond Annex A.
 - ☐ The Seller states that the horse is suitable for that use, as follows:
-
-

8. Ownership and risk

Ownership passes to the Buyer

- ☐ when the full price has been received
- ☐ on handover
- ☐ on this date: _____

Risk (for example of injury, illness or death) passes to the Buyer

- ☐ on handover
- ☐ on this date: _____

Until risk passes, the Seller keeps the horse at their own cost and cares for it to the same standard as before the sale. The Buyer is advised to insure the horse from the moment risk passes.

9. Handover and documents

Handover date and place

Transport arranged and paid by

At handover the Seller gives the Buyer:

- ☐ the original passport
- ☐ vaccination records (if not in the passport)
- ☐ studbook / registration papers
- ☐ vet records and original X-ray files, if any
- ☐ any form needed to register the change of ownership with the studbook, federation or national database
- ☐ other: _____

10. Trial period (optional)

Trial

- ☐ There is no trial period.
- ☐ The Buyer may try the horse on the following terms:

From – to (dates)

Where the horse is kept

Who insures the horse and pays its costs during the trial

How and when the Buyer must confirm or cancel

11. Defects and claims

The parties' rights if the horse turns out to have a defect are those given by the law that applies to this agreement. They are extended or limited by the options below only as far as that law allows.

Agreed terms

- ☐ The Seller gives these specific warranties:

- ☐ Any claim must be made in writing within _____ of handover.
- ☐ Other agreed terms:

Check locally: where a business sells to a consumer, many countries do not allow the buyer's legal rights to be reduced or the claim period to be shortened below a minimum.

12. Personal data

Each party will use the other's personal details only to carry out this agreement, to register the change of ownership and as required by law.

13. Law and disputes

This agreement is governed by the law of _____

Courts with jurisdiction _____

Before going to court, the parties will try to settle any disagreement by talking to each other and, if that fails, may agree to use mediation.

14. General

This document and its annexes are the whole agreement between the parties. Any change must be in writing and signed by both. If one clause is found to be invalid, the rest of the agreement still applies.

15. Signatures

Seller

Name

Signature

Place and date

Buyer

Name

Signature

Place and date

Annex A – Seller's disclosure

Answer every question. If the answer is yes, give details and dates. Add pages if you need to.

Question	Yes	No	Details and dates
Has the horse ever been lame or rested for an injury?	☐	☐	
Has it had surgery, colic, tying-up or a serious illness?	☐	☐	
Does it have a long-term condition (e.g. breathing, skin, laminitis, allergies, eyes)?	☐	☐	
Has it had any medication, joint treatment or sedation in the last 3 months?	☐	☐	
Any stable habits (e.g. weaving, crib-biting, wind-sucking, box-walking)?	☐	☐	
Any behaviour problems (e.g. bucking, rearing, napping, biting, kicking, being alone)?	☐	☐	
Any difficulty with loading, clipping, the farrier, the vet or traffic?	☐	☐	
Has an insurer ever excluded a condition or refused cover?	☐	☐	
Mares: has she been bred from or covered? Could she be in foal?	☐	☐	
Is anyone else a co-owner, lessee or lender, or has any claim over the horse?	☐	☐	

Food chain status shown in the passport

Last vaccinations (type and date)

Last worming or egg count (date)

Last dental check (date)

Last farrier visit, shod / barefoot

Competition record (level, where to check it)

Seller

Name

Signature

Place and date

Annex B – Handover receipt

Horse (name, UELN, microchip) _____

Date, time and place of handover _____

The Buyer confirms receipt of the horse and of the documents ticked in clause 9.

Notes on the horse's condition at handover _____

Seller

Name

Signature

Place and date

Buyer

Name

Signature

Place and date