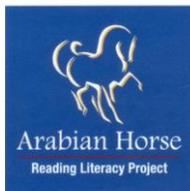


Horse Words

- **Alfalfa** – A high protein hay that is ideally mixed with clover and grass.
- **Arena** – Enclosed area where horses train and compete.
- **Bell boot** – A protective covering, usually made of rubber that fits over the top of the hoof and protects the horse from injuries.
- **Breeches** – Comfortable, stretchy riding pants worn by English riders.
- **Buck** – The act of a horse leaping in the air with its back arched and landing on the ground with its head down and its forelegs stiff. Bucking is often an attempt to throw a rider.
- **Canter** – A smooth, three-beat gait that is faster than a trot and slower than a gallop.
- **Chaps** – Protective leather leg coverings often worn by Western riders.
- **Conformation** – A horse's physical characteristics judged according to how they compare to the ideal shape and form.
- **Crop** – A short riding whip sometimes used to reinforce a rider's leg signals.
- **Cross-ties** – A pair of ropes that extend from sturdy facing walls or posts and clip to the sides of a horse's halter. Cross-ties minimize side-to-side movement, making it safer for grooms, veterinarians, farriers, and other individuals to work on a horse.
- **Equestrian** – A person who is well versed in riding horses.
- **Farrier** – A person who trims hooves and shoes horses.
- **Frog** – A V-shaped portion of the underside of the foot that acts as a shock absorber whenever the hoof strikes the ground.
- **Gallop** – A four-beat gait by which a horse achieves its greatest speed.
- **Hand** – A 4-inch unit of measurement used to determine a horse's height at the withers.
- **Horse sense** – Practical, common knowledge.



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- **Paddock** – The English term for a fenced-in turnout area. It can range up to an acre in size.
 - **Posting trot (rising trot)** – A trot during which the rider rhythmically rises out of the saddle at every other stride to achieve comfort and maintain control while moving at a brisk pace.
 - **Shavings** – Flaky wood chips that are used as bedding in a horse stall.
 - **Side step (sidepass)** – When a horse crosses one front foot in front of the other moving sideways instead of forward.
 - **Spurs** – An artificial aid made of metal that attaches to a rider's boot. Spurs are properly used to reinforce a rider's leg signals in case the horse does not respond to them.
 - **Tack** – Halters, bridles, saddles, harnesses, and other gear that's used to control horses.
 - **Trot** – A two-beat gait, faster than the walk and slower than the canter, during which the horse's diagonal pair of legs (one front leg and the opposite hind leg) move together.