

## Virginia Equine PLLC

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### *WHAT'S NORMAL FOR YOUR HORSE*

- Rectal temperature: 99.5 to 101.5 degrees Fahrenheit for adult, 101 to 102.5 for foal
- Pulse: 32 to 48 beats per minute at rest
- Respiration: 12 to 24 breaths per minute, possibly up to 48 if just finished exercise or really hot outside.
- Good appetite for grain and hay
- Rolling, then getting up and shaking dust off

### *WHEN TO CALL FOR VET RIGHT AWAY*

- Rectal temp above 101.5 for adult, 102.5 for foal
- Pulse above 48 beats per minute at rest
- Respiration above 36 with flared nostrils and/or heaving flanks
- Poor appetite for grain and hay
- Excessive rolling without shaking dust off afterward, or staying down after rolling.
- Looking at belly or kicking at belly repeatedly
- Pawing significantly more than normal
- Cloudiness of the eye, swollen eye, or substantial squinting
- Wound deeper than a pencil eraser, or any wound on or near a joint
- Bleeding that doesn't stop in fifteen minutes or is exceptionally heavy
- Not bearing weight on one of the legs
- Large, painful swelling on or near any of the joints

### *WHEN TO CALL THE VET THE NEXT BUSINESS DAY*

- Occasional limping, but willing to bear full weight on limb
- Eating hay and grazing but not interested in grain
- Swelling that isn't near any joints and is not painful
- Wound that is very shallow