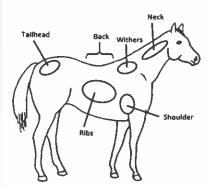
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Body Condition Scoring for Horses



To calculate overall BCS, score each body location, add the scores and divide the total by 6.



	Score	Back	Ribs	Neck	Shoulder	Withers	Tailhead
Poor	1	Very prominent vertebrae	Very prominent	Extremely thin	Prominent	Prominent	Very prominent
Very thin	2	Prominent vertebrae	Prominent	Very thin	Very thin	Very thin	Very thin
Thin	3	Vertebrae – fat ½ way up	See easily	Thin	Thin	Thin	Prominent
Moderately Thin	4	Negative crease	See slight outline	Moderately thin	Moderately thin	Moderately thin	Some fat
Moderate	5	Level – no crease	Not see, easily feel	Blend into shoulder	Blend smoothly into shoulder	Rounded	Moderate fat
Moderately Fleshy	6	Slight crease	Not see, feel	Little fat	Little fat	Little fat	Moderate fleshy fat
Fleshy	7	Average crease	Barely feel	Average fat	Average fat	Average fat	Fleshy fat
Fat	8	Obvious crease	Difficult to feel	Fat	Flesh behind	Fat filled	Fat
Extremely Fat	9	Very obvious crease	Not feel, patchy fat	Bulging fat	Bulging fat	Bulging fat	Bulging fat