



## ADOPTION PROCESS

1. Look at potential horses. If you choose to visit during our open hours, you can find a list and information on adoptable equines located in the adoption barn in addition to the website.
2. [Set an appointment with one of our trainers and potential horses.](#) Once you have narrowed down specific horses you are interested in (up to 2), a trainer will either add you to an interest list or schedule an appointment if the horse is available. We schedule appointments on a first come, first serve basis. If you are unable to do an initial visit, please call us to discuss what you are looking for in a horse and set up an appointment.
3. During your appointment you will be able to:
  - a. Meet adoptable equine(s) and get to know them
  - b. Watch the trainer ride/work the equine(s)
  - c. Ride the equine(s) (if deemed suitable by trainer/manager)
  - d. Discuss with the trainer the quality of the match. It's important for the safety of both equine and rider that the match is appropriate.
4. Beginning the adoption process
  - a. Work or ride the equine that fits your goals and skill set for 3 complementary lessons within a 2-week time frame.
  - b. If a lesson is not immediately scheduled after the first appointment, patrons have 24 hours to schedule the next complementary lesson with a trainer. At this point the horse is considered pending adoption and will not be shown to other interested adopters.
  - c. If needed, additional lessons may be necessary to ensure a good match of equine and rider.
5. A site inspection will be completed during or after the lesson phase. This can be conducted one of two ways:
  - a. An investigator or HEC staff member will go to the facility where you will be keeping the equine and inspect the grounds for safety.
  - b. A virtual tour/inspection with HEC staff via Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Facetime, etc. to show the required elements can be scheduled with the trainer(s) or manager(s) you are working with during the adoption process. If the facility has poor service, a video tour of the facility and required elements maybe be emailed. Please keep videos to a maximum of 5 minutes in length. A trainer or manager will fill out the inspection form during the inspection/video and have you confirm the information and sign the form at your next visit.
  - c. Elements required of a facility are: proper hay/food, clean water, shelter, fence in

good condition, and an area clear of debris and hazards.

6. A brand inspection will be completed, and ownership will be transferred. The Harmony Equine Center WILL cover the cost of the Brand Inspection.
  - a. Brand Inspections are required by Colorado State Law to prove legal ownership of an equine so do not lose this.
7. A veterinary Health Certificate and/or Coggins exam is optional and can be requested during the adoption process. The Harmony Equine Center does NOT cover the cost of the Health Certificate or Coggins exam.
  - a. Health Certificates are valid for a total of 30 days.
  - b. Coggins exams are valid for one year.
  - c. Health Certificates/Coggins exams are often required by boarding facilities. If you are planning on keeping your adopted horse at a boarding facility, please ask the barn manager if they require either of these exams during the adoption process.
8. Pre-purchase veterinary exams are optional during the adoption process. The Harmony Equine Center does NOT cover the cost of the pre-purchase exam, nor will our vet be used to complete the exam.
  - a. Please contact your veterinarian if you wish to schedule a pre-purchase vet exam during the adoption process.
  - b. Harmony Staff will NOT hold equines for the scheduled exam unless deemed behaviorally necessary. Pre-purchase exams can take several hours to complete so please schedule this exam with your veterinarian during business hours. The adopting patron is to be present during the entirety of the exam.
  - c. Coordinate with Harmony staff to schedule the pre-purchase exam at most convenient time.
9. Set up a pickup time.
  - a. At time of pick up you will pay the adoption fee, receive all medical, farrier, and training notes and sign an adoption contract. We accept cash or check for payment.
  - b. Once the paperwork is complete, we will take your picture with your new equine (given consent by adopting patron) and congratulations you are off on your new journey!!!

Due to the high volume of adoptions, we are unable to hold horses. We ask that you set up appointments within 3 days of communicating with a trainer. We don't guarantee the equine you are interested in will be available at the time you have your appointment. We have appointments available 6 days a week depending on trainer availability, and they are on a first come first serve basis. Once the adoption process has begun, we will no longer show that horse to potential adopters if lessons are scheduled within the 2-week time frame in which lessons should be completed. We will show the horse to other potential adopters if it is not possible for you to schedule appointments within the 2 weeks. If you have any questions, please call 720.626.2203 or speak with a staff member.

**We look forward to helping you adopt your new four-legged friend!**