

Horse Property Fencing Hazard Checklist

Because “safe enough” isn’t safe enough

- ☒ 1. Visibility Fence lines clearly visible to horses (wide tape, sight boards, or painted top rails) No “invisible” wires where horses are likely to run or play Electric tape or rope is kept taut and free from sagging
- ☒ 2. Materials No large mesh (openings over 50 mm / 2”) where horses can catch a hoof or head Mesh is tightly strained and not sagging Plain wire is smooth, not barbed, and without sharp spurs or broken ends Star pickets capped with strong protective sleeves (preferably with electric offset)
- ☒ 3. Structure No leaning posts or loose strainers No protruding nails, screws, or bolts Rails (if wooden) are free of splinters and rot Electric lines are functioning and well-insulated
- ☒ 4. Placement Fencing is set back from slopes, water points, or narrow gateways to reduce collision risk Buffer fences or electric offsets are in place in high-traffic or high-risk areas No narrow spaces where horses could become trapped between fence and fixed object
- ☒ 5. Surroundings No farm machinery, feeders, or debris within reach over or through fence lines No toxic plants growing along fence lines Ground near fences is even and free from deep holes
- ☒ 6. Maintenance Fences checked at least once a month (more often in bad weather) Repairs made immediately—no “temporary fixes” left long term Electric fences tested regularly for charge strength

Tip: Walk your fences after heavy rain, wind, or storms—damage is often hidden until it’s too late. Your Horse’s Safety Is Worth the Effort

The best fence is one you never have to see your horse tangled in. If you spot a hazard, fix it now—not later



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