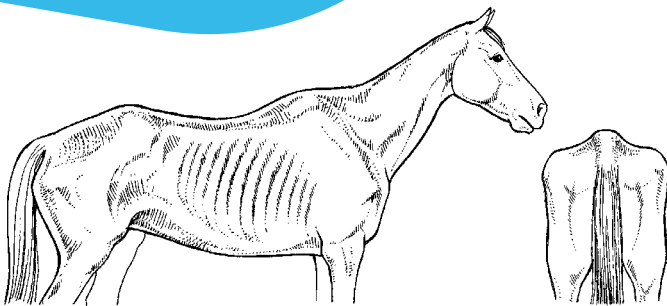


# Body scoring

Six point scale 0 to 5

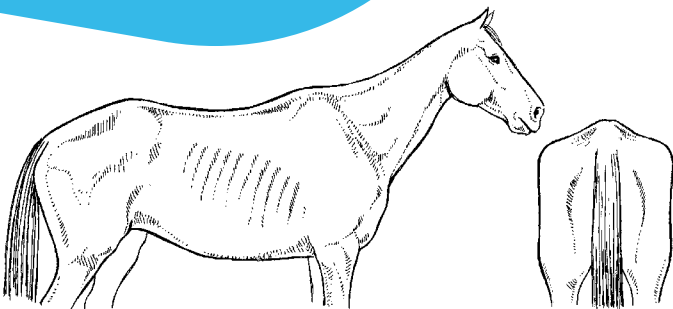
BLUE FOR  
PETS  
CROSS

## 0 = Emaciated



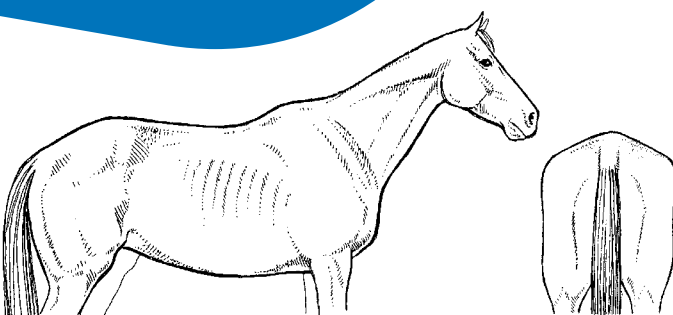
- No fatty tissue can be felt  
– skin tight over bones
- Shape of individual bones visible
- Marked ewe-neck
- Very prominent backbone and pelvis
- Very sunken rump
- Deep cavity under tail
- Large gap between thighs

## 1 = Very thin



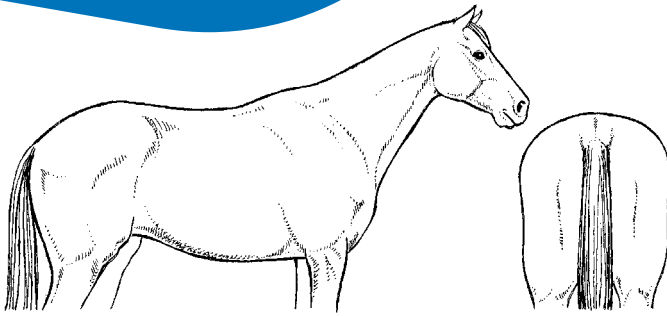
- Barely any fatty tissue  
– shape of bones visible
- Narrow ewe-neck
- Ribs easily visible
- Prominent backbone, croup and tail head
- Sunken rump
- Cavity under tail
- Gap between thighs

## 2 = Very lean



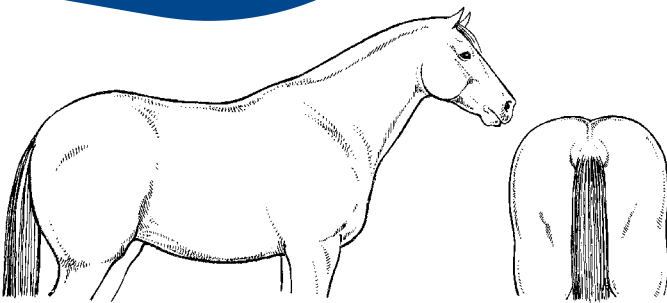
- Very thin layer of fat under the skin
- Narrow neck – muscles sharply defined
- Backbone covered but still protruding
- Withers, shoulders and neck accentuated
- Ribs just visible
- Hip bones easily visible but rounded
- Rump sloping from backbone to point of hips, only rounded if very fit

### 3 = Healthy weight



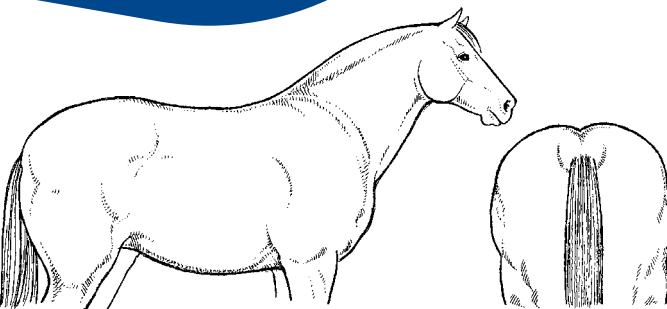
- Thin layer of fat under the skin
- Muscles on neck less defined
- Shoulders and neck blend smoothly into body
- Back is flat or forms only a slight ridge
- Ribs not visible but easily felt
- Rump beginning to appear rounded
- Hip bones just visible

### 4 = Fat



- Muscles hard to determine
- Spongy fat developing on crest
- Fat behind shoulders
- Ribs and pelvis difficult to feel
- Rump well rounded – apple shaped from behind
- Spongy fat around tail head
- Gutter along back

### 5 = Obese



- Blocky, bloated appearance
- Muscles not visible
- Pronounced crest with hard fat
- Pads of fat; ribs cannot be felt
- Deep gutter along back and rump
- Lumps of fat around tail head
- Very bulging apple shaped rump
- Inner thighs pressing together

For more details see the chart on page 9 of the *Fat Horse Slim* booklet or visit our website [www.bluecross.org.uk](http://www.bluecross.org.uk)

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