

Name:

Class:

Date:

Activity 10.3A: Cost of Owning a Horse

Instructions

Purchasing and keeping a horse is a significant financial responsibility. This lab activity is designed to help you determine how much it would cost to purchase a horse; the equipment needed to keep and transport the animal and provide housing and healthcare. Other items that will be included in your calculations are the cost of tack and items required to maintain your horse (i.e., brushes, fly spray, blankets), and the cost of feed.

This activity is divided into five sections:

- Section 1: Horse selection worksheet
- Section 2: Equipment costs worksheet
- Section 3: Maintenance costs worksheet
- Section 4: Total costs worksheet
- Section 5: Essay on purchasing and keeping a horse

Complete the worksheets and use the information to write an essay explaining what type of horse you would buy and how much it would cost to purchase and keep the animal. Search online, in magazines, and in local newspapers to find a horse that suits your requirements and budget. Use the information from the ad to describe the horse's qualities and to calculate your costs.

Section 1: Horse Selection

1. Determine what purpose your horse will serve. For example, will you be riding just for pleasure, or do you plan on showing or working your horse?

Answer:

2. What conformation traits are needed to fulfill this purpose?

Answer:

3. What breed(s) of horse is best suited to this purpose? Explain your answer.

Answer:

4. Is the horse's age a consideration? Explain your answer.

Answer:

5. Is the horse accustomed to companionship? Will your horse be housed alone or will there be other animals on the premises?

Answer:

6. Will there be a fee involved for transporting your horse from the point of purchase to your home or boarding facility? Will you need to rent a trailer or pay someone to transport your horse? What is the cost?

Answer:

7. What is the total price for your horse?

Answer:

Section 2: Equipment Cost

Visit local tack stores or websites to determine the cost for the items listed. The cost of these items is not included in the price of the horse. While you are searching for these items, you may want to look up prices of additional items included on the horse maintenance worksheet.

Grooming Costs

Item	Brand	Location	Cost
Curry comb (metal)	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Curry comb (rubber)	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Dandy (soft) brush	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Hoof pick	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Mane and tail comb	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Misc.	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:

Grooming Total:

Tack Costs

Item	Brand	Location	Cost
Bit	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Bridle	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Fly mask (optional)	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Halter	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Lead rope	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Leg gear (optional)	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Reins	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Saddle	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Saddle blanket	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Tack cleaner	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Misc.	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:

Tack Total:

General Health Care Costs

Item	Brand	Location	Cost
2 rolls vet wrap	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Hydrogen peroxide	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Wound treatment	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Ointment	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Phenylbutazone	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Paste (butte)	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:
Misc.	Answer:	Answer:	Answer:

General Health Care Total:

1. Calculate the total equipment costs.

Grooming Total:

Tack Total:

General Health Care Total:

Total equipment costs:

Section 3: Maintenance Costs

1. Calculate the following recurring health costs after gathering data from online research or discussing the services with a veterinarian. You may also want to contact several farriers.

Recurring Health Care Costs

Item	Times Needed Per Year	Cost Per Use or Service	Yearly Cost
Horse dewormer	At least 6	Answer:	Answer:
Farrier	Every 6 weeks	Answer:	Answer:
Five-way horse vaccine	Every 4 months if they remain in one location Every 2 months if they are being shown and traveling	Answer:	Answer:
West Nile vaccine	Every 4 months if they remain in one location Every 2 months if they are being shown and traveling	Answer:	Answer:
Health insurance (optional)	May be monthly, every six months, or once per year	Answer:	Answer:
Misc.		Answer:	Answer:

Total Recurring Health Yearly Costs:

2. Calculate the following feed costs after gathering data from online research or discussing the feed costs with local supply stores and local boarding facilities.

Feed Costs

Item	Cost Per Use or Service	Yearly Cost
Hay*	Answer:	Answer:
Supplement (50 lb bag is about a one-month supply)	Answer:	Answer:
Misc.	Answer:	Answer:

Total Feed Costs:

*You will need to calculate the cost for one ton of hay. A light horse will eat about 1/3 of a ton of hay per month, and a draft horse will eat about 1/2 of a ton of hay per month.

- Calculate the following housing costs after gathering data from online research or discussing the services with local boarding facilities.

Housing Costs

Item	Cost Per Use or Service	Yearly Cost
Pre-owned pasture (calculate cost at \$25 per year; includes fence maintenance, fertilizer, etc.)	Answer:	Answer:
Rented pasture	Answer:	Answer:
Stable boarding (usually on a per month schedule)	Answer:	Answer:
Stable feeding (some stables include an additional service fee if you choose not to do this yourself)	Answer:	Answer:
Stall cleaning (some stables include an additional service fee if you choose not to do this yourself)	Answer:	Answer:
Turn out fee (some stables include an additional service fee if you choose not to do this yourself)	Answer:	Answer:

Total Housing Costs:

- Calculate the total maintenance costs.

Recurring health total:

Feed total:

Housing total:

Total maintenance costs:

Section 4: Total Costs

1. Calculate the total costs for purchasing and keeping a horse for one year.

Item	Total Cost
Horse purchase	Answer:
Transportation	Answer:
Equipment and grooming	Answer:
Maintenance	Answer:

Total Costs:

Section 5: Essay

1. Using the data you have collected, as well as other facts and information you have acquired in your research, write an essay on the cost of purchasing and keeping a horse for one year. Your essay must be between 350 and 750 words. Review the grading rubric before writing your paper to ensure you have all the necessary data and have not omitted required information.

Section 5: Grading Rubric (attach to final essay)

Category	Full Points	Partial Points	No Points	Score
Use	Essay explains exactly what you will use the horse for and describes the conformation traits needed to perform those tasks	Essay only partially explains what the horse will be used for or does not fully address the conformation requirements	Essay does not clearly explain how horse will be used	Answer:
Breed	Essay explains why this breed of horse was selected and a short history of the breed; information is accurate and based on information learned in the breeds of horses unit	Essay does not explain why this breed of horse was selected, or does not explain the history of the breed; inaccuracies in breed information	Essay does not specify a breed	Answer:
Purchase information	Essay includes an advertisement for the horse selected, including picture of the horse and a description of the horse's qualities and the selling price	Essay is missing a picture or selling price of the horse; information does not match the use or breed listed in the paper	No purchase information is provided	Answer:

Score: