

Disinfect Your Horse Stalls, Clothes, Brushes

By Dr. Karen Hayes and Sue Copeland

To Disinfect a Stall:

Remove all bedding.

Remove all removable objects, such as buckets and feeders. Using a mixture of hot water and dish detergent, scrub them free of residue. Rinse thoroughly, then scrub again with a solution of 1 part laundry-type chlorine bleach to 10 parts water. Allow them to air-dry without rinsing. Scrub one more time with hot water and dish detergent. Rinse thoroughly to remove any bleach or detergent residue.

Sweep cobwebs, dust, hay, etc., from the stall floor, walls, ledges and door.

Wash walls and other solid surfaces using a garden hose, a stiff [scrub brush](#), and dishwashing detergent.

Mix Lysol Disinfectant Concentrate (2 q/2 tablespoons per gallon of water) in a garden-type spray tank. Wear protective clothing, including long sleeves, long pants, gloves, goggles and head gear. Spray a soaking mist of disinfectant onto all surfaces and allow to air-dry. Repeat.

Return clean buckets and feeder to your horse's stall. Bed with clean bedding.

To Disinfect Yourself:

After handling a sick horse:

When entering the horse's stall or paddock: Wear rubber boots and close-weave fabric overalls with long sleeves. Confine your hair in a hat. Use disposable latex or rubber examination gloves whenever working with or around a sick horse. Leave these garments at the stall door or paddock gate, where they can be donned before entering and taken off when you leave.

Upon leaving the horse's stall or paddock: Discard the used disposable gloves in a closed receptacle outside the enclosure. Disinfect your boots with a plastic scrub brush and Lysol Disinfectant Concentrate (2 1/2 tablespoons per gallon of water) in a dishpan or bucket. Leave the boots outside the enclosure to dry. Cover or discard Lysol solution for safety (it's toxic if swallowed.)

When tending to more than one horse, take care of the sick one last.

To Disinfect Your Grooming Tools:

Clean your brushes and grooming tools at least once a month to help prevent skin

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problems from developing and spreading, particularly if grooming tools are shared among several horses.

Remove all hair.

Soak and scrub your brushes and [tools](#) in hot water and dish detergent to loosen and remove all oils, dander, scabs and other residue.

Prepare Lysol disinfectant solution (2 1/2 tablespoons per gallon of water); soak all grooming tools for 30 minutes. Discard solution. Allow tools to air dry, preferably in the sun. (Note: Wooden-handled tools might be damaged by soaking. Use tools that are made of materials that can be soaked safely—such as plastic or metal.)

To Disinfect

[Saddle Pads](#) and Blankets:

Clean blankets and pads weekly or monthly, depending on how frequently they're used. Doing so will help prevent skin problems from developing and spreading.

Remove hair with plastic brush and/or vacuum cleaner. Discard vacuum bag.

If machine-washable, run pads through the wash cycle with Lysol. (Use 1 cup in a standard top-loader.) Spin dry and run through a second wash cycle with Ivory soap flakes. Add vinegar to the rinse water to help remove soap residue. (Use 1 cup in a standard top loader. Some horses have a skin-sensitivity to detergent residues in [saddle pads](#) and blankets.) Tip: If your washing machine is too small to wash saddle-pads, inquire at local Laundromats for permission to use their machines. Most will allow this, but will require you to run the machines once more, empty, to remove hair and other residue.)

Allow to air-dry, preferably in the sun.

Article and Webinar links

**Horse Sense (and Sensibility) - Fight the Fear

<http://cs.thehorse.com/blogs/horse-sense-and-sensibility/archive/2011/05/20/ehv-1-outbreak-fight-the-fear.aspx>

**Horse Owner Webinar, *Tuesday, May 24, 5:00-6:00 p.m. Pacific* Go the site to register for the webinar.

Equine Herpesvirus-1 Outbreak (EHV-1): Horse Owner Webinar <https://www.thehorse.com/ViewArticle.aspx?ID=18280&src=VW>

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From: jerred jantzen [<mailto:trailerwash@gmail.com>]

Hi Cherie,

I wanted to be proactive about the current EHV issue, so I just spoke with Tristen Weltner with SLO Equine Veterinary Services to let her know that I can follow the guidelines in the Biosecurity Instructions put out by the AAEP for horse trailer washing. I can follow the guidelines for stall washing as well.

I gathered the following information below and thought it would be helpful to pass on to Ride Nipomo Members.

Thank you,

Jerred Jantzen

Jerred's Horse Trailer Wash

Important steps in preventing the spread of any contagious disease or virus:

Limit your horses contact with other horses who may have been exposed to the disease or whose history is unknown

Do not share tack, buckets or grooming tools with other horses

**Do not let your horse rub noses with other horses
After handling a horse wash your hands before handling, touching or petting another horse.**

Clean all your tack and equipment after you come back from an event with possible exposure.

Clean inside of your horse trailer after you come back from an event with possible exposure.

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Abide by all quarantines when traveling in or out of an area infected by a disease.

Community water troughs should be avoided.

Bring your own water source and clean sanitized bucket.

Make sure Equine Professionals wash their hands well before working on your horses; ie Farriers, Equine Dentists, Equine Chiropractors, Equine Massage, etc.