

Checklist for the Horse Trailer Buyer

Investing in a horse trailer? **Busy researching and comparing?** Whether purchasing your first horse trailer or your fifth, there is so much to consider!.

Use this **organizer as a safety checklist for the tow vehicle and to compare models or brands.** Prioritize the options and quality important to you as you anticipate safe and enjoyable adventures with your horse!

Before we look at trailers, let's consider your vehicle, horses and how you will use the trailer!

Consider Your Tow Vehicle

<input type="checkbox"/> Type of vehicle	
<input type="checkbox"/> Capacity of tow vehicle - adequate for trailer? (Consult your owner's manual)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hitch Capacity -adequate for what size of trailer?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brake control - necessary for towing any trailer with electric brakes	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ball size	
<input type="checkbox"/> Airbags - required for this trailer?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Weight distributing hitch - required for this trailer?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gooseneck or bumper pull trailer	

Consider How You Will Use the Trailer

<input type="checkbox"/> Occasional or regular use	
<input type="checkbox"/> # of stalls desired (extra stalls for storage?)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Any special considerations regarding the type of roads you expect to travel	
<input type="checkbox"/> Horse activities you will be attending	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other uses – hauling cattle or other livestock, hauling off-road vehicles or carriages, etc	
<input type="checkbox"/> Year-round travel or fair weather only	

Consider Your Horses

<input type="checkbox"/> Height and length of your horses	
<input type="checkbox"/> Behavior of your horses – kicking, pawing, nervous, claustrophobic, loading problems, etc	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hauling the same or various horses (allow for various sizes, behavior, special needs like a ramp or extra height)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other special considerations for your horses - stallions, mares and foals, etc.	

This section will help you compare different trailers. Print as many sheets as necessary.

	Brand/Model	Brand/Model
Trailer Construction		
<input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum, steel or steel frame-aluminum skin (consider your climate, price range, trailer weight, aesthetics, longevity)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Weight of trailer		
<input type="checkbox"/> Type of flooring – wood or aluminum		
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction of floor		
<input type="checkbox"/> Single wall vs. double (often referred to as triple wall)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Inside height		

<input type="checkbox"/> Inside width		
<input type="checkbox"/> Size of stall – length, diagonal, width		
<input type="checkbox"/> Roof construction		
<input type="checkbox"/> Spacing of uprights		
<input type="checkbox"/> Side sheet thickness, Corrugated or smooth skin		
<input type="checkbox"/> Warranty – length and coverage		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other_____		

Wheels and Axles

<input type="checkbox"/> Tires – Brand, size and capacity to fit size of trailer		
<input type="checkbox"/> Spare tire		
<input type="checkbox"/> Axles – torsion or spring, EZ Lube		
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric brakes on all wheels		

Exterior

<input type="checkbox"/> Lighting – LED's marker and tail lights		
<input type="checkbox"/> Flood lights		
<input type="checkbox"/> Graphics		
<input type="checkbox"/> Vortex protective coating		
<input type="checkbox"/> Number and placement of tie rings		
<input type="checkbox"/> Trailer jack - manual, electric, hydraulic, single or dual		

Stall Area

<input type="checkbox"/> Construction of divider, divider padding		
<input type="checkbox"/> Type of divider latch		
<input type="checkbox"/> Wall lining		
<input type="checkbox"/> Type of floor liner - mats, Polylast, Vortex		
<input type="checkbox"/> Head wall - Drop-down windows or open air-gap		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tail wall - Bus windows, drop-down doors or open air-gap		
<input type="checkbox"/> If Drop-down feed doors – safety bars or screens and type of handle (ease of use)		
<input type="checkbox"/> If open air gap – plexiglass or plexiglass ready		
<input type="checkbox"/> Dome lights, switches		
<input type="checkbox"/> Roof vents		
<input type="checkbox"/> Adequate ventilation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Single or Double rear doors		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tie rings		
<input type="checkbox"/> Feed bags or mangers		
<input type="checkbox"/> Insulation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other_____		

Dressing Room/Tack Area

<input type="checkbox"/> Size		
<input type="checkbox"/> Stationary or swing-out saddle rack		
<input type="checkbox"/> Shelving, brush trays or door organizers		
<input type="checkbox"/> Carpet or rubber matting on floor		
<input type="checkbox"/> Bridle hooks – how many		
<input type="checkbox"/> Blanket bars		
<input type="checkbox"/> Water tank		
<input type="checkbox"/> Windows		
<input type="checkbox"/> Boot box		
<input type="checkbox"/> Roof vent		
<input type="checkbox"/> Insulation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra storage space		
<input type="checkbox"/> Clothes rod		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other_____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other_____		

Other Optional Features

<input type="checkbox"/> Rear tack		
<input type="checkbox"/> Side tack or mid-tack		
<input type="checkbox"/> Ramp		
<input type="checkbox"/> Mangers and storage		
<input type="checkbox"/> Hayrack		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1st Stall escape door		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other_____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other_____		

Financial

<input type="checkbox"/> Price		
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment		
<input type="checkbox"/> Financing – should I get pre-approved?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Available cash down payment		
<input type="checkbox"/> Length of Manufacturer's Warranty - if none, is one available for purchase		
<input type="checkbox"/> Value = Price + quality + features!		

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