



Electric Fencing for Horses & Ponies (page 1 of 2)



Using electric fencing for horses and ponies is perhaps one of the most established reasons to employ our products. Equestrian electric fencing can be temporary or permanent, using stand-alone plastic fence posts, or mounted onto existing post & rail.



This is normally done using electric fence tape, rather than wire or rope. The main reason for this is that the deterrent effect of the fence line is 'visual' to a large degree and horses' dichromatic vision is generally much less sharp than our own. This means that our equine friends probably won't see a thin fence line and the first they will know about it is an electric shock, which may cause them to panic and push forward through the line. Unless specifically requested, we also suggest using white tape, rather than green; horses and ponies cannot really distinguish between red and green, so the use of white ensures that the fence is as visible as possible.



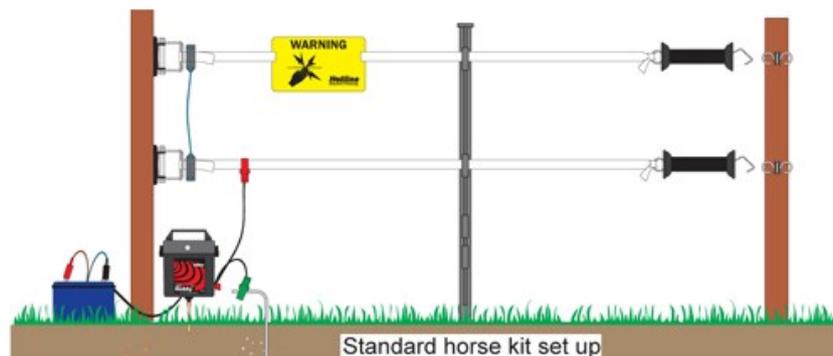
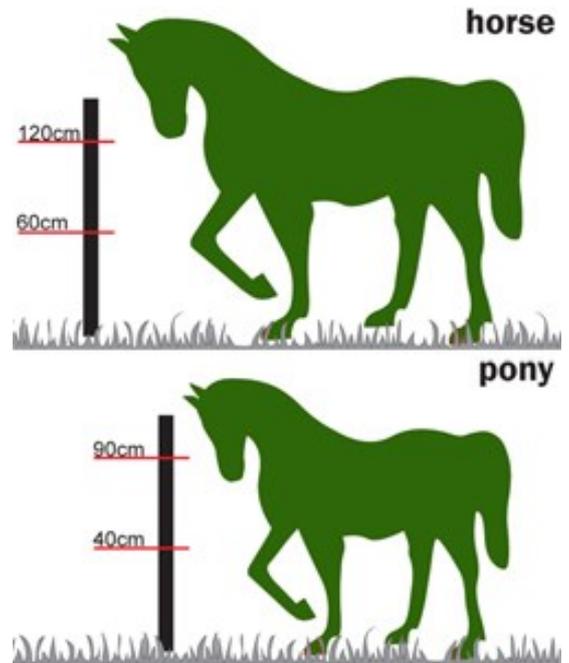
Equestrian electric fences typically have two lines, so that contact is made as early as possible: the highest is typically at muzzle or chest height and the lower line is designed to make contact with the leading knee. Obviously, you should try to match the height of the fence lines to your horses or ponies and, when in doubt, it is always better to have more lines rather than less.



Most horses and ponies are able to detect when a fence line is active or not, so tend to stay away from it after an initial period of 'learning'. In some cases, such as with younger horses, or those that have never been around electric fencing, you may wish to accelerate the learning process. You can do this by putting a little jam on the fence line after you have first installed it. Whilst this may sound cruel, the shock is mildly painful and will not harm the animal.



With some, more 'persistent' breeds of horse or pony, such as Shetlands, or those with thick coats, you should use an energiser which is more powerful than the minimum size needed. Of course, where the ponies are somewhat 'smaller' than usual, you will need to adjust the fence heights accordingly and for miniature ponies, we would recommend adding a third line closer to the ground, as they are known to crawl...





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