

Horseracing terms



Common horse words

Colt

A young male horse up to the age of four

Filly

A young female horse up to the age of four

Mare

A female horse aged five or older

Horse

A colt is referred to as a 'horse' after the age of five

Sire

The father of a horse

Dam

The mother of a horse

Stallion

A male horse used for breeding

Broodmare

A female horse used for breeding

Foal

A new born horse up to one year old

Yearling

A one year old horse

Gelding

A male horse castrated usually to make it more even-tempered

Other words

A gallop

A track in a long straight line which allows the rider and horse to practise going fast

Amateur

A rider who doesn't get paid for riding

Cross country

Rider and horse tackle a long course with jumps and other hurdles at speed across the country side

Eventing

A competition that usually takes place over 3 days. There are three parts to the competition - dressage, cross-country riding and show jumping.

Chase

A chase race is another term for a steeplechase, which is a race run over fences and ditches

Conditional rider

A conditional rider is an apprentice racing jockey in Great Britain or Ireland:

- under the age of 26 and
- who has not won more than seventy-five races under rules or has not won that many races within the last six months

Dressage

Where the horse rider gets their horse to do controlled movements

Point to point

A point-to-point is a form of horse racing over fences for hunting horses and amateur riders

Seven-pound claim

A jockey who has ridden less than twenty winners can claim an allowance of seven pounds (3.17 kg) reduction in the weight carried by the horse