

## HORSE GROOMING TOOLS

### WHY DO WE GROOM HORSES?

Before we ride, we groom horses to remove dirt and to check for injuries or sore spots. Putting a saddle on a dirty horse can lead to sore spots developing. Just like when we put a shoe on when we have sand on our feet.

We groom horses after we ride as well. We can help get the sweat off of them if they have been working hard.

In the spring horses shed out their winter coats. We groom horses when they are shedding to help them remove their long winter hair so they don't get too warm in the summer. They are very itchy when they are shedding and really appreciate us helping them shed.

Horses are social and tend to enjoy being groomed. Grooming is a way for us to spend time bonding with the horses, and show them how much we appreciate them. At JHTR we like our horses to look clean and shiny.

### WHAT DO WE USE TO GROOM HORSES?

Each horse at JHTR has their own bucket of grooming tools. Our buckets and grooming tools are color coordinated for each horse so we don't get them confused. We have the five types of brushes in each horse's bucket listed below!



- 1) **CURRY COMB**—The curry comb is a stiff rubber brush used to loosen dirt and massage the horse's skin.

To use the curry comb, we brush in a circular pattern avoiding the sensitive parts of the horse including the face and legs from the knees down.

At JHTR, Two Socks loves being brushed with a curry comb. He is always itchy!





- 2) **BODY BRUSH**-The body brush is a medium, long bristled brush used to remove the dirt that the curry comb loosened.

To use the body brush, we brush in short flicking strokes in the same direction the horse's hair grows avoiding sensitive parts of the horse including the face and legs from the knees down.

At JHTR, Duke loves being brushed with a body brush. He looks so shiny when he is well groomed!



- 3) **SOFT BRUSH**-The soft brush is a soft, short bristled brush used to shine the horse's coat as well as removing any dirt from the sensitive areas of the horse.

To use the soft brush, we brush in smooth, short, soft flicks in the same direction the horse's hair grows being extra gentle on the sensitive legs of the horse. Let the JHTR staff brush the horse's face if needed.

At JHTR, Taco loves being brushed with a soft brush. He loves being treated gently.



- 4) **HOOF PICK**- The hoof pick has a metal hook on the end of it which is used to remove dirt, sand, and rocks from the horse's hooves.

To use the hoof pick, we pick up the horse's feet one at a time and remove the dirt and rocks from the hoof.

At JHTR, Charlie Brown wears special shoes and needs his feet picked out carefully with a hoof pick.



- 5) **MANE AND TAIL BRUSH**- The mane and tail brush is a hard bristled brush that is used to gently detangle the horse's mane and tail.

To use the mane and tail brush, we work from the bottom to the top of the mane standing beside the horse. For the tail, we stand next to the horse's hindquarters and brush the tail starting from the bottom and working to the top.

At JHTR, Dakota will stand for hours to get his mane and tail brushed out!

