## **The Equine First Aid Kit**

Your barn and trailer should ALWAYS have an <u>Equine First Aid Kit</u> to treat minor wounds. Make sure you know where it is stored at your barn.

What Should be in your Equine First Aid Kit??



**1.Digital Thermometer** – for taking the temperature of the horse. Must be digital, not glass. Wipe with alcohol before & after each use. Put petroleum jelly on the insertion end.



**2.Petroleum jelly** – used to lubricate the thermometer. Squeeze tube preferred. Can also be used on chapped heels to protect from wet & weather.







**3.Liniment** - may be used on legs of horses after exercise to combat pain and swelling. Can be applied by rubbing on full-strength, or diluted by adding to a bucket of water and sponged on the body.

**4. Rubbing Alcohol** – used to clean/disinfect the thermometer or scissors. For non-animal use.



**5.Antimicrobial/Antiseptic SCRUB** - Used to CLEAN a wound. It must make suds.

## 6.Topical antibacterial/antimicrobial/antibiotic AGENT -

Used to TREAT a wound. Like Neosporin. Slow growth of Bacteria. Must have the words "antibacterial" OR "antimicrobial" OR "antibiotic" on the tube. Must have an expiration date.





7. 4" STERILE gauze wound pads – Gauze pads that touch the wound – they must be individually wrapped so they will be Sterile. Use with the SCRUB to clean the wound, then blot the wound, then dress the wound. Should have at least 8 at all times.

**8. 2" wide gauze roll** – Used to hold the STERILE gauze pad in place. Roll gauze can be the brown type that veterinarians use, or stretchy cling gauze available in grocery stores.

Must be at least 2" wide, may be wider.





9. 1 lb roll of 12" absorbent practical cotton – Used for bleeding or oozing wounds. Not sterile, so would use a 4" sterile first, then this cotton on top.

## 10. Flexible stretch adhesive/cohesive bandages –

These are useful in keeping a gauze pad or other wound padding in place. Apply snugly enough to keep it in place, but use caution, since it can stretch and cut off circulation. (Vet Wrap okay)





11. Adhesive Bandage TAPE - Used to keep a gauze pad or other wound padding in place. This tape is specifically designed to hold bandages on. It is also known as cloth sports tape or bandage tape. Cannot be masking or duct tape. Must be at least 1" wide.

<u>12. Bandage scissors</u> – Used to cut bandages off.
Cannot be the type with sharp points; must be blunt tipped.



13. Cloth leg pads & wraps – used to wrap around the leg after dressing the wound. Must be soft, smooth, and thick enough to distribute pressure evenly without binding or causing too much pressure on any structure of the leg.

The wraps are the final step in wound dressing by wrapping the wound dressing and padding in place. (remember to wrap the opposite leg for balance)



