



The Horse Pre-Purchase Examination (PPE)

5-STAGE HORSE VETTING

There is only one type of **PPE (Pre-Purchase Examination)** that gives you the complete picture and that is a **FULL 5 Stage Examination**. Other, shorter inspections leave out certain parts of the full list of examinations and may therefore not give you a full and complete picture of your chosen horse/pony and may not be able to give you an accurate assessment on which to base your decision to purchase the horse/pony.

We **ALWAYS** recommend a **FULL 5 Stage Vetting (PPE)**, if you chose a cheaper, shorter option, then it is at your potential peril and involves additional risk.

- **STAGE 1.**

- **THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION**

- In the box initially – complete clinical examination of the horse, examination of eyes, heart, lungs, legs, back, joints, tendons, without tack.

- **STAGE 2.**

- **TROTTING UP**

- This requires a firm surface (20m minimum, ideally 40m). It is at this stage that flexion test, lunging, tight turns, etc are done as per the vets directions.

- **STAGE 3.**

- **STRENUOUS EXERCISE**

- The aim of this exercise is to exert **NOT** exhaust the animal, the horse should be fit and ridden by a competent rider. The heart and chest are assessed as soon as the horse is under maximum exertion.

- **STAGE 4.**

- **A PERIOD OF REST**

- 20 – 30 minutes box rest – horse markings are noted at this time.

- **STAGE 5.**

- **SECOND TROT UP & FOOT EXAMINATION**

- A second trot up and foot examination is carried out. The vet at this time may also repeat the flexion tests and lunge. Blood samples (if required/requested) are taken and an examination of the mouth.

2-STAGE VETTING

We will carry out 2-Stage Vetting when requested.

A 2-stage vetting comprises of the **STAGE 1. PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION** a complete clinical examination of the horse/pony, examination of the eyes, heart, lungs, without tack along with flexion tests. **STAGE 2. TROTTING UP** is also carried out.