

**101 +
Careers**
in the
Horse Industry

***Where Passion Meets
Profession***

Thank You!

I would like to thank the many students, teachers, friends, social media friends, horse business professionals, horse business owners, business owners who have aligned their business for horse owners and professionals, horse business employees, equine competitors, hobby horse owners and horse riders and the many horse lovers from around the world for the extra ideas on careers with horses!

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What started as 101 careers, has now exceeded this amount and we already know of other careers to include in more editions. If you know of another career that should be included, please contact us about your contribution.

Thank you for your previous contributions and contributions in advance, without you this book would never have happened!

Glenys 😊

Interviews With Equine Industry Leaders



(Ms) Glenys Cox

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About This Book

When I think back to the lack of available information about careers in the horse industry and the ignorance of a guidance officer who told me that working with horses was not a career, I know that we have come a long way.

This book commenced as a workbook for our students so they could map out their careers in the horse industry, while also giving some confidence to their parents and guidance officers that a career in the horse industry was real.

Previous versions of this book organized the wide variety of careers/ income in the basic four categories below and with more information following:

- Horse hobbies
- Horse jobs
- Horse businesses
- Extra streams of income.

However, the categories are interchangeable and what can start as a hobby can turn into a full-time job which can then turn into a business.

An existing business looking for an additional source of income can then specialize and change its business structure to become the leader in this niche within the industry.

In addition, we have found that the equine industry is growing and careers within this industry are also growing so we have exceeded the 101 ideas in previous editions of this book. So, in this edition, all careers (including hobbies, jobs, businesses, and additional sources of income for existing businesses) are included and listed in alphabetical order.

If you are ready to start your career in the horse industry, some jobs and businesses may seem overwhelming. Remember that a career with horses is a pathway that may start as a very humble job. Do it well and you never know where it could lead!

We work with horses for the lifestyle, so always remember why you started in this industry in the first place.

The number one way to have a successful career with horses is left until last because until you have read the other 101 plus careers you will not appreciate this one!



Horse Hobbies

If you think you don't have enough experience or the right qualifications to work in the horse industry or to get started in your career with horses, think again!

Many people have horses and make a little extra income from hobbies that complement their life with horses. You could be a parent or a partner of a horse owner and still make a little extra money to help pay the bills. There are many ideas in here that could grow into a full-time income or move towards a business employing staff.

There are other people who may be at school and don't even have their own horse yet but they can earn some pocket money simply by being a 'helping hand' doing odd jobs for a busy horse owner!

Jobs With Horses

The days of a school guidance officer telling someone that there are 'no careers past being a stable hand if you want to work with horses' is over.

There is a diverse range of jobs with horses and a real pathway of progressing from one to the other.

Horse Businesses

Many of the traditional businesses associated with horses are still alive and well today and many more have emerged to support the ever-growing population of horses and the increasing popularity of recreational horse riding.

Enjoy reading about these career opportunities to see if your idea is included.

Extra Streams of Income

Traditional businesses are changing their business structure and focusing on the horse industry market as their 'niche'.

If you work in one of these businesses and you also have a horse industry qualification, then you are the obvious choice to work in that new area for your employer.

Introduction to International Horse College

International Horse College has a rich history of over forty years in the equine industry. The college was founded with the primary goal of preparing instructors to meet the growing demand for qualified professionals in the horse industry.

Over the years, the college has evolved to provide a range of comprehensive and practical equine education programs to students in Australia and overseas.

The college's commitment to quality education has been a key factor in its success. International Horse College is a government-accredited Registered Training Organisation (RTO), ensuring that its programs meet the highest standards of quality and professionalism. The college's team of dedicated and experienced instructors are committed to providing students with the best possible education.

As the equine industry evolved, the college also evolved to meet the changing needs of its students. The college's commitment to quality education and practical training made it a popular choice for students who are passionate about pursuing a career in the equine industry. International Horse College is proud to have students from around the world and to be considered a truly international college.

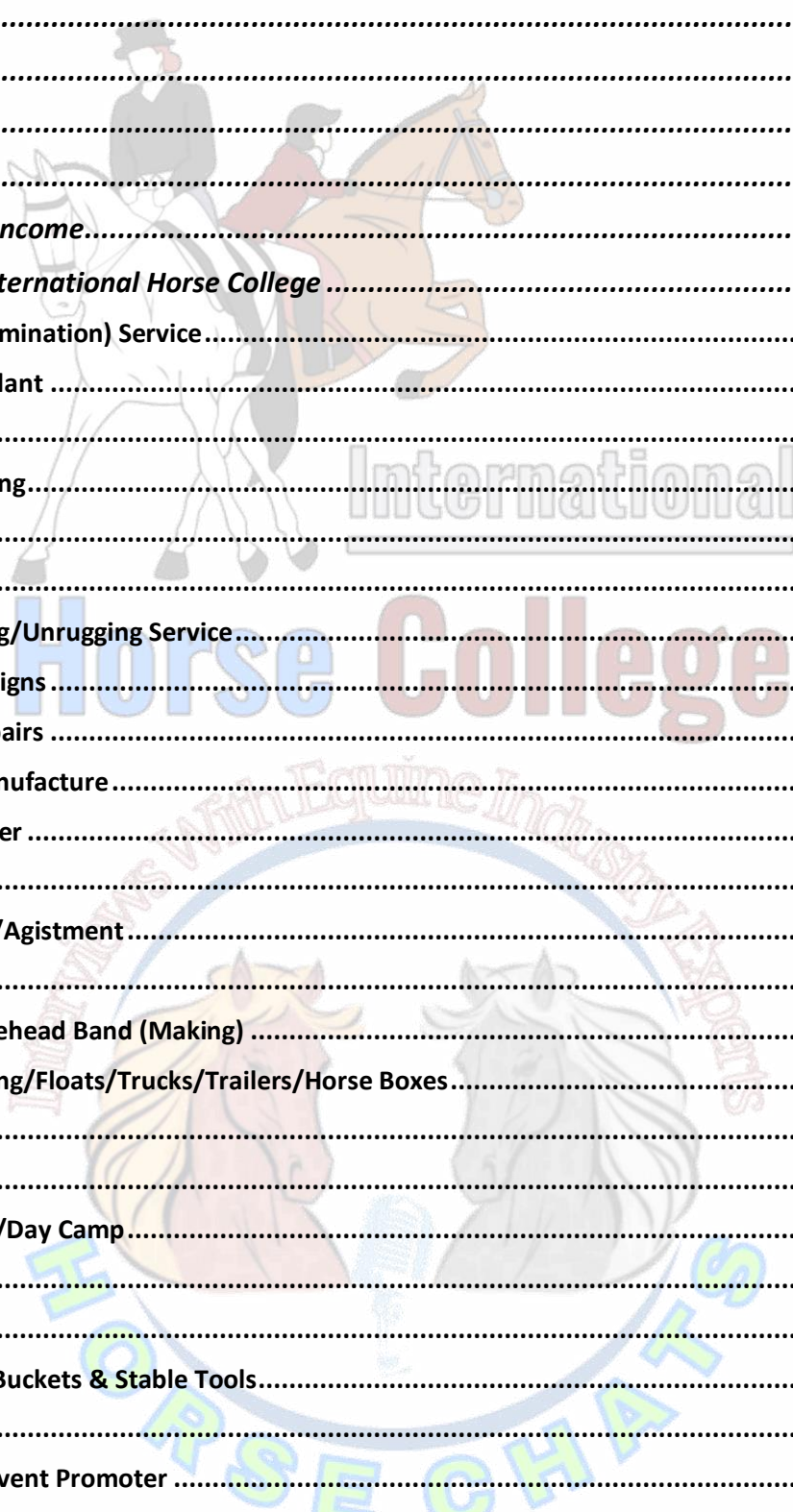
The collaboration of equine industry experts has been instrumental in ensuring that the education provided by International Horse College remains relevant and up to date. These experts bring their extensive knowledge and experience to the table, allowing the college to offer comprehensive and practical education to its students.

In conclusion, International Horse College has come a long way from its early days of training instructors for exams. Today, it is a leading international college that provides comprehensive and practical equine education, and the use of technology has made it a popular choice for students who are passionate about pursuing a career in the equine industry.

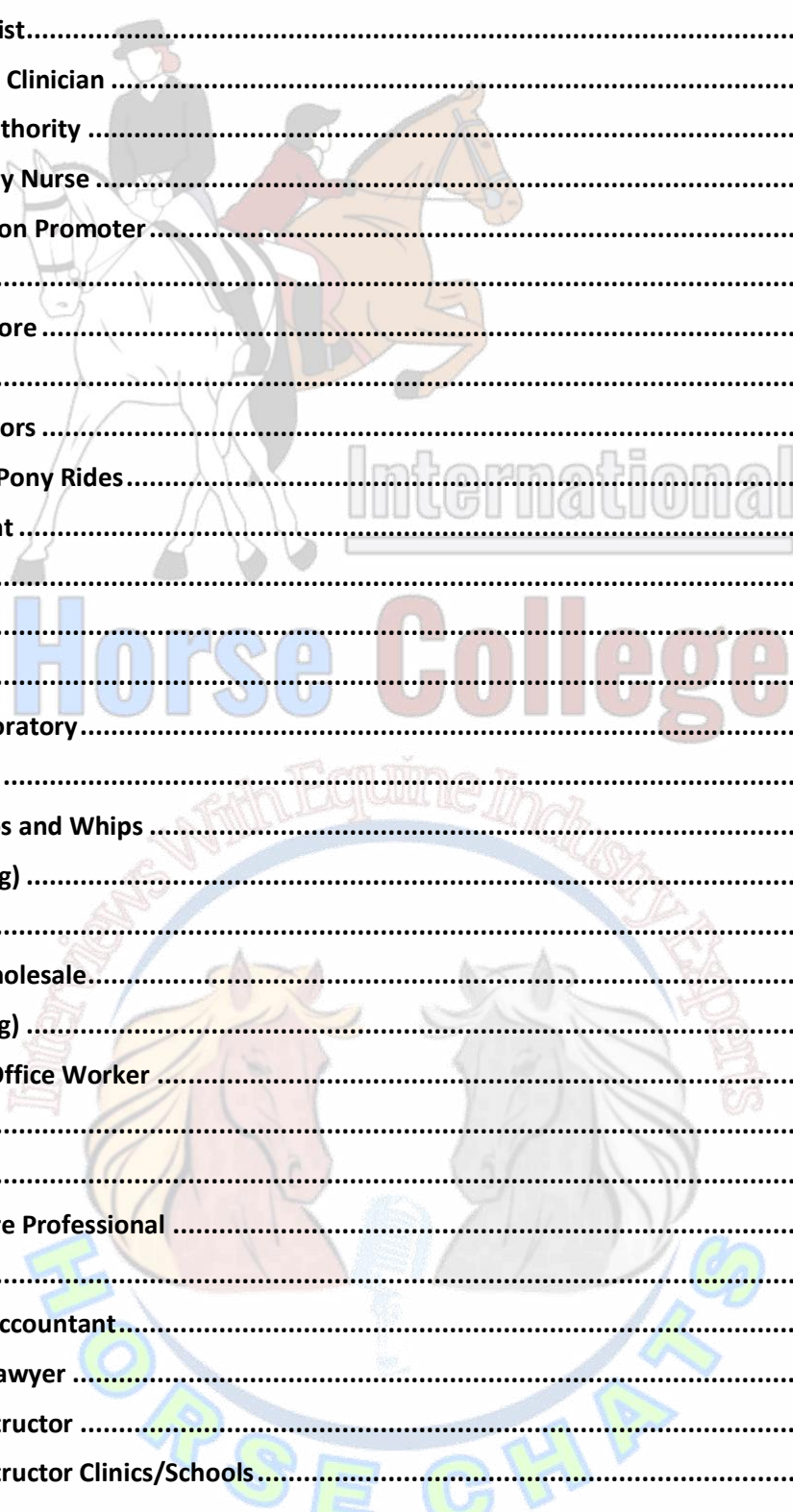
The college's commitment to evolving with the equine industry ensures that it will continue to be a leader in equine education for years to come.



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AI (Artificial Insemination) Service

To perform this service, you will need education and training in performing artificial inseminations including semen collection.

Knowledge of the reproductive systems of horses is essential. An artificial insemination technician inseminates mares with frozen or fresh semen from a stallion. This business could involve working on a stud or travelling to different locations for work.



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Air Travel Attendant

If you dream about a job with horses and you are also interested in travel, then this might be your dream job!

An Air Travel Attendant career is a bit difficult to get into, because the transport company will only hire very knowledgeable and experienced people to look after valuable horses.

However, if you know anyone who is preparing to send a horse by air, this is a good place to start. Offer to care for their horse and once the travel company sees how good you are at caring for the horse, they are more likely to offer you an opportunity to travel again if they are short staffed.



Arena Builder

If you are going into the business of building arenas then you're going to need knowledge and experience in construction and earthworks (drainage, soil types, slopes) and machinery such as graders, bull dozers, excavators, and bobcats.

You will also need an awareness with what people want from and in a riding, arena including draining and surfaces. Requirements vary between disciplines and with personal preferences.



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Barefoot Trimming

This is becoming more popular as horse owners are discovering the benefits of improving their horse's feet naturally thus eliminating the need for shoes.

Knowledge of both internal and external structures of the hoof, how it functions and how this influences the horse is essential along with hoof illnesses, ailments, and lameness.

Before you start, make sure you have the knowledge/ qualifications of current studies of hoof care and therapy.



HORSE CHATS

Barn Hand

Barn hands often have other chores as well as the responsibility for some or all of the horses boarding (agisting/livery/boarding) in a professional barn.

You may be required to drive the tractor and mend some fences. Some employers offer “live-in” for their barn hands which means that they live on the property or location where the horses are kept. They may also be responsible for security.

Barn hands are often the ‘caretakers’ of the property.



Bit Bank

Sometimes people like to try a bit on their horse before purchasing it.

They may decide to buy, but the trial before purchase is essential for this business idea.

If you have a large variety of bits (particularly if you are able to purchase more at a wholesale price) then this could be a business idea.

It could complement your existing business if you have a saddlery or similar.



Blankets/Rugging/Unrugging Service

Some people are busy with their daily routines, workloads and other commitments and may not have time to put on and take off rugs/ blankets from their horse. A common example would be a person who works early in the morning or late into the evening or night and cannot attend to their horse's needs (particularly in winter when days are warm, and nights are cold).

You will need to be confident handling horses and have knowledge of different rugs and styles.



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Blanket/Rug Designs

Don't just make blankets/rugs, design them! You can work with a blanket/rug maker with individual designs or make a 'line' of themed blankets/rugs. You will need to survey the market (people with horses) to see what their preferences are, or if they would like one designed for a special occasion.



Blanket/Rug Repairs

As long as there are horses wearing rugs there will be rugs that need repairing. For some owners rug repairs are a much cheaper option to buying a new rug every time it gets a hole or tear.

This requires some special equipment as not all rug materials are soft cotton so an industrial sewing machine may be necessary for repairing rugs of heavier, thicker material types.

Knowledge of how to sew and rug patterns is also helpful to the task.



Blanket/Rug Manufacture

There will always be a demand for blankets/rugs so long as it remains practical and necessary to rug a horse. You can choose to specialize in making a certain type of blanket/rug (i.e., show blankets/rugs) or generalize and create your own range of horse rug wear.

Sewing skills will be important along with creativity and knowledge of design.



Blacksmith/Farrier

If you don't mind hot, strenuous work then the option of being a blacksmith/farrier may be for you.

This is a profession which requires knowledge of the internal and exterior structures of the horse's hoof and how it works from a physiological point of view and in terms of how the horse moves.

For insurance purposes and the health and wellbeing of clients' horses it is preferred to have a qualification and membership with a farrier group.



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Blogger

Choose your main area of interest in the horse industry. It could be equine travel, how to keep horses on a budget or simply about your life with your horse.

Then start writing on your website/ blog and spread the word!

Income can be in the form of people advertising or sponsoring your blog or even guest articles on other people's websites.



HORSE CHATS

Boarding/Livery/Agistment

The type of boarding/livery/ agistment you offer will determine how much work you will need to undertake.

For example, if you only offer full board agistment then you will need to attend to all of the management needs of each horse because that is what the clients are paying for.

That means feeding, blankets/ rugs, watering, cleaning yards/paddocks, stalls/stables, and paddocks/ fields/pastures, maintaining the property etc.

On the other hand, if you offer DIY agistment then your responsibilities will remain with the upkeep of the facilities with horse owners looking after the husbandry of their horse.



Breeding

You don't need a large-scale stud to be able to breed horses, but you do need to have a knowledge of horse reproductive systems and cycles, pregnant mares management and care, stallion behaviours and care, and foaling and foal management and care.

It is also of a benefit to you in the long run if you do your research and have knowledge of the preferred traits and characteristics of the breed you are interested in.

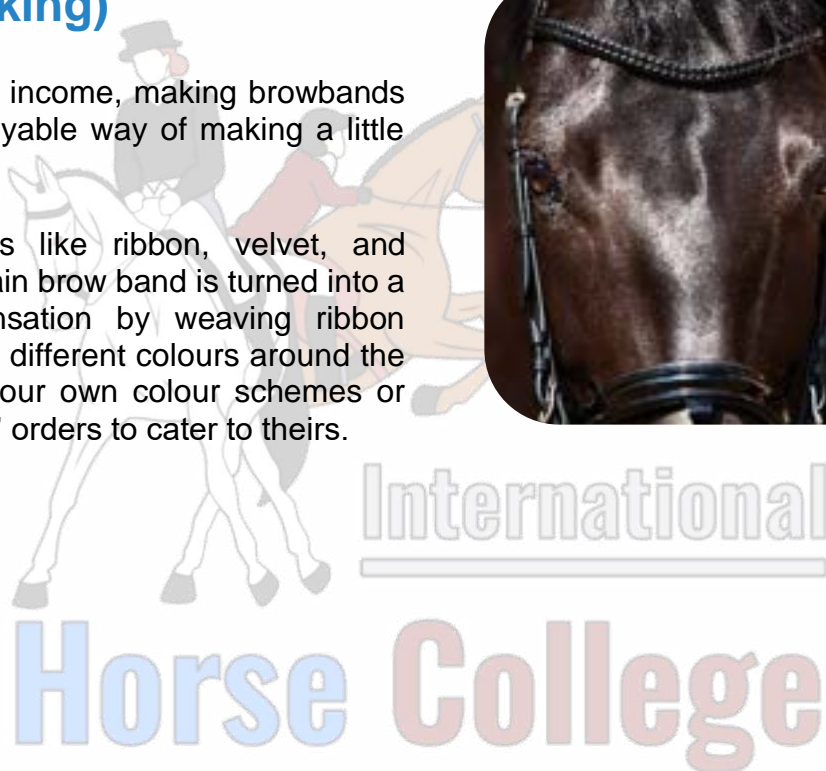
In this way when it comes to sell your bred stock it will be of good quality and type which will bring a better price.



Brow Bands/Forehead Band (Making)

A crafty type of income, making browbands can be an enjoyable way of making a little extra cash.

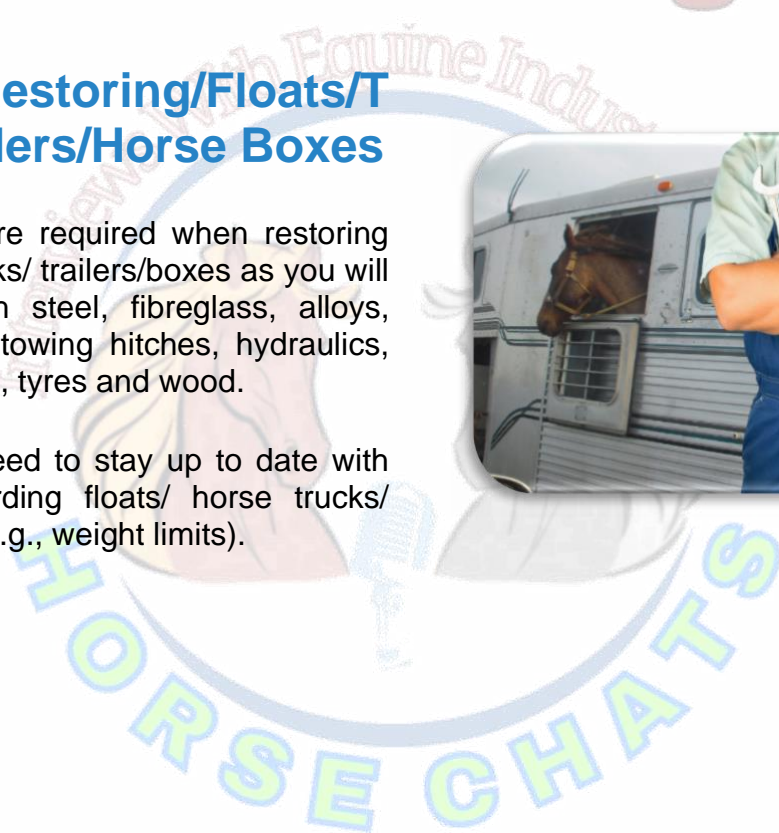
Using materials like ribbon, velvet, and diamonds a plain brow band is turned into a show ring sensation by weaving ribbon and/or velvet of different colours around the band. Create your own colour schemes or take customers' orders to cater to theirs.



Building/Restoring/Floats/Trucks/Trailers/Horse Boxes

Building skills are required when restoring floats/horse trucks/ trailers/boxes as you will be working with steel, fibreglass, alloys, brake systems, towing hitches, hydraulics, electrics, springs, tyres and wood.

Also, you will need to stay up to date with legislation regarding floats/ horse trucks/ trailers/ boxes (e.g., weight limits).



Carriage Hire

A popular use for carriages is at special occasions like weddings and school formals.

To start a carriage-hire business, you will need a suitable horse or horses as well as at least one carriage suitable for the job.

It is essential the horses are well trained and safe for the carriage as well as experienced in traffic and people. Legal requirements such as licences and permits must also be complied with.

Experience and knowledge in driving carriages is essential and your carriage, horses and you need to be presented professionally to enhance the business's reputation.



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Interviews With Equine Industry Experts

Car Stickers

Horsey people like horse related stickers to put on their cars and other horse vehicles.

This business can sell product online, in shops and by mail order.

Promotion of this business could be as easy as using your own car and float to display sticker products and contact details.



Children's Camp/Day Camp

Children's horse camps and activities will be the busiest around holiday periods.

The size of the camp held, or the size of the group catered for can be altered to suit the facilities and staff available.

Camps can operate on a day basis where children will be dropped off in the morning and picked up the same afternoon or as an overnight stay.

Overnight stays will require more preparation into sleeping arrangements, food, and amenities (i.e., toilets, showers).

Compliance with local bylaws, state and federal legislation and regulations is essential along with obtaining the appropriate permits if required.



Cleaning Gear

Not everyone loves every aspect of horses and what comes with them.

Cleaning gear entails cleaning saddlery and equipment that is used on horses such as saddles, bridles, bits, boots, bandages, breastplates etc.

Attention to detail will be useful when cleaning gear and you may also be required to condition (leather) gear after it has been removed of dirt, grime and sweat.

This is not a job for people who like to stay clean themselves.



Cleaning Stables

This job could be as simple as cleaning the stable for a horse owner if they do not have time on that day, or regularly cleaning it out.

It will be easier if the horse is not in the stable while you clean it, but if the horse is still in the stable you will need to know how to work around horses safely.

If you keep your horse at an agistment/boarding or livery centre or there is one nearby, this is a good place to start.

Racing stables also have a large number of stables to be cleaned, usually several times each day.



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Cleaning Water Buckets & Stable Tools

This may be a weekend job in a riding school where you have lesson.

Sometimes you may not be paid for jobs like this but swap them for riding lessons.

Swapping work for lessons really is a win/win situation.

The riding school is having these regular necessary jobs done and you will not be paying for your riding lessons.

Remember that even though you are not being paid directly, your work ethic is important.



Clipping

Some people don't have the time (or want) to clip their horse.

You will need attention to detail and patience to undertake a business in clipping.

Clipping a whole horse takes a long time, especially if the horse isn't entirely convinced that the clippers aren't going to eat him. Experience handling horses is a must along with experience clipping and knowledge of different types of clips.

The equipment you will require for this job includes, clippers, trimmers (for delicate areas), spare clipper blades, clipper oil (not cooking or car oil!), extension leads, screwdriver (for removing blades), small soft bristled brush (for cleaning clippers) and if necessary, horse restraints.



Competition & Event Promoter

While many of the smaller horse events and competitions are organized by clubs/volunteers, it is becoming more common for the bigger events and competitions to be contracted to professional businesses.

If you plan to start this business, you should already have experience as a volunteer at equestrian events or have worked in a professional event management business.



Competition Rider

Some people love to train their horse, but then get far too nervous to ride them in competitions. If you are an experienced, successful competition rider then this is an ideal opportunity for you!

If you are already a qualified instructor, you may already be teaching an owner of a competition horse.

Otherwise, an owner may approach you at a competition with an offer to also ride their horse.

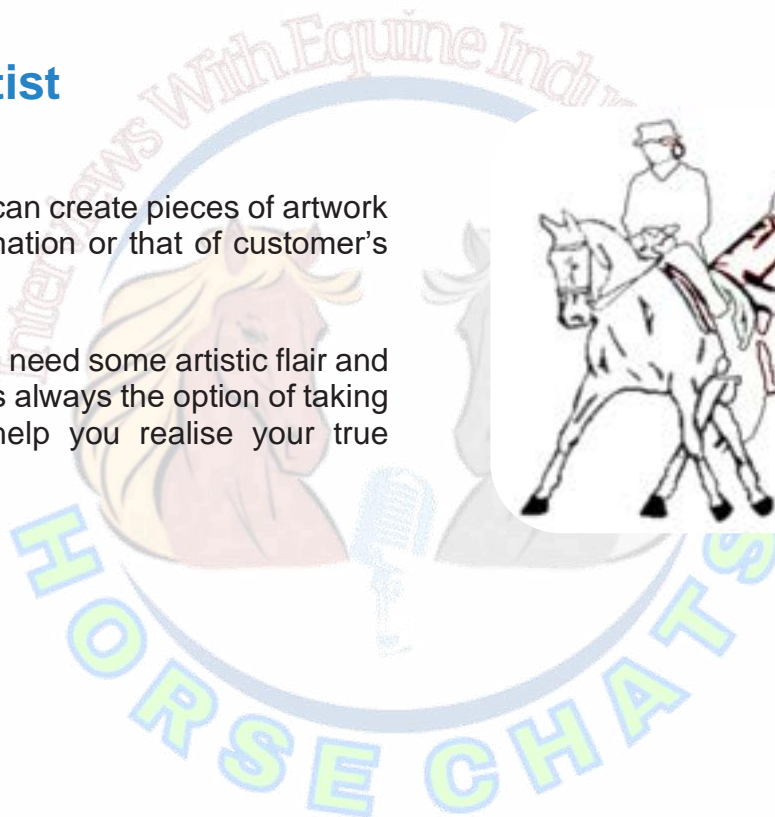


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Equine Artist

As an artist you can create pieces of artwork from your imagination or that of customer's horses.

Naturally you will need some artistic flair and talent, but there's always the option of taking art classes to help you realise your true artistic potential.



Equine Assisted Learning Instructor

(Related – equine facilitated learning (EFL) but this title/position is losing traction due to ambiguity and inability of the sector to have consensus what EFL means).

Equine Assisted Learning is an experiential learning session that takes place in the presence of or through activities with horses.

If this is an area you are interested in, please keep reading on one of the links below.

(A huge thanks to Tanya Pigeon www.equinnect.com.au for her contribution. For further information, please visit <https://www.internationalhorsecollege.com/EquineAssistedCareers/>)



Equine Assisted Therapist

(Related – equine assisted psychotherapy (EAP) equine assisted counselling (EAC) and equine facilitated psychotherapy (EEP).

If you are already a qualified counsellor, therapist, psychologist, or psychiatrist then consider the benefits your clients would have by using horses within your sessions with them.

If this is an area you are interested in, please keep reading on one of the links below.

(A huge thanks to Tanya Pigeon www.equinnect.com.au for her contribution. For further information, please visit <https://www.internationalhorsecollege.com/EquineAssistedCareers/>)



Equine Content Creator

An equine content creator designs and creates educational, insightful, and entertaining content, to be expressed on digital media platforms. These content creators should be passionate about horses, be knowledgeable and well experienced in the Equine Industry with a constant desire to learn, grow and be updated on all Equine related matters.

They can create their own channels or offer their talent and expertise to leading Equine establishments. This is an ideal opportunity to discover new ventures in the equine movement and create exciting new projects, collaborate with Equestrians and Equine enthusiasts, and most importantly enjoy working with horses.

*(Thanks for Wiranya Divitotawela, Equestrian Athlete and founder of Equine Mastery
https://www.instagram.com/equine_mastery/
Phone 0770521661 Sri Lanka).*



Equine Escort

This position which is usually overnight or over a few days and nights, can be more of a Trail Ride Leader. It is a specialist position more found in historical exotic locations and includes local knowledge where you would give an ongoing commentary about highlights of surrounding areas.

You would also organise caterers, and other staff who care for the horses as well as administer any required First Aid and other guest requirements.



Equine Nutritionist

Nutritionists often work with lots of different people within the horse industry. You will require a good knowledge of what food and supplements a horse need in order to be in the best physical state. Nutritional studies are important and to obtain high employment positions you could be required to hold a Ph.D.



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Equine Specialist Clinician

If you are already working in the horse health industry, a way to expand your services is to have a 'one stop shop' for horses' health needs.

You will need to work with a number of other professionals in the horse health industry (either employed or working on a contract basis). These could include veterinarians, equine massage, chiropractor, Bowen therapists, acupuncture, and nutritionists.



Equine Travel Authority

If you ride regularly or have ridden and are familiar with a tourist destination (particularly if this destination is remote or exotic) then you could become an Equine Travel Authority for that area.

You will need to co-ordinate with a travel agent, a provider who could provide suitable horses and a staffing agency who could provide an equine escort as well as caterers and other ancillary staff.



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Equine Veterinary Nurse

Many people have a dream job of working in a type of animal hospital and taking care of the animals, but horse people would prefer to work with horses above all other animals.

You may need to work in a small animal clinic to gain experience but also have qualifications in the equine field as well as a veterinary nursing certificate when you apply for this position.



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Event/Competition Promoter

If you take into consideration the calendar of events for all the different clubs, sports, and disciplines in the horse industry there will be a lot of events going on out there.

Needless to say, that there is a lot of promotion going on for those events. And there is the window of opportunity in promoting competitions. Competition promoting involves marketing and advertising competitions in the lead up to the event.

Good organisation and skills in marketing and promoting are beneficial in this business to get the word out to the desired audience.



Exercise Rider

Exercise riders often work alongside trainers in large stables that may specialise in a specialist skill (e.g., show jumping, dressage).

The horses need exercise every day and the trainer may only ride them three or four times a week.

Alternatively, an exercise rider may warm up and cool down the horses before and after the trainer rides them.

You will need to be confident in handling and riding horses, able to take instructions from the trainer when riding and should already have some training in the same field as the trainer.



Feed/Produce Store

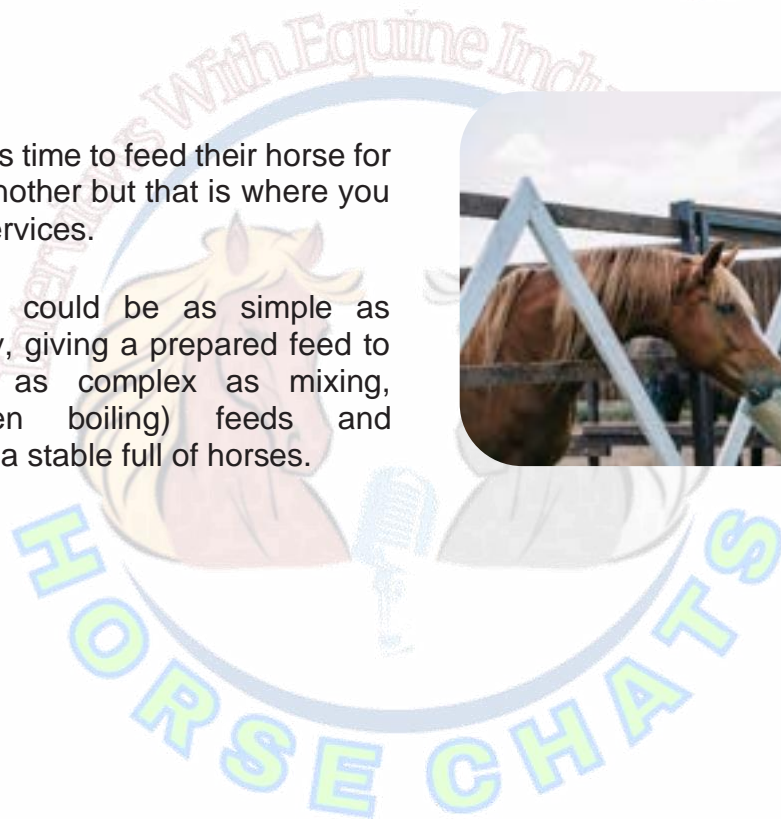
Produce and stockfeed stores provide feed and hay for purchase. Some also stock a range of health care products such as worming pastes and antiseptic sprays while others will also stock saddlery and rugs.



Feeding

Not everyone has time to feed their horse for one reason or another but that is where you can offer your services.

Feeding horses could be as simple as throwing out hay, giving a prepared feed to one horse or as complex as mixing, preparing (even boiling) feeds and supplements for a stable full of horses.



Fencing Contractors

Fencing contractors build and repair fences for property owners. Knowledge of fencing materials, construction and design is necessary along with the fitness to be able to do manual work in all sorts of weather conditions.



Fetes and Event Pony Rides

With this business you will operate from the venue of an event (e.g., fete, show). Presenting the ponies well is essential. Ponies should be healthy and in good condition and equipment should be safe and functional.



Ponies will need to be quiet to handle and accustomed to different sights, sounds and smells that come with fete and show environments. If you are following the show circuit this will mean you will spend large amounts of time travelling and away from home.

Foaling Attendant

It is hard to resist a foal and a foaling attendant's role is to be on the look-out for newborns.

This job involves shift work at night during which time you will be required to regularly check on mares which are due to foal for signs of imminent birth, monitor the progression of births and be on hand to assist the mare and if necessary, call the vet.

Experience with mares, foals and the birthing process is important. Depending on where you work while you are on duty, part of your role could be nursing sick foals, providing medications and stable chores (cleaning stalls, saddlery etc).



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Foal Watch

Foal watching involves working night-time hours and early mornings. This job entails watching mares for signs of foaling and may include caring for the mare and foal after birth and looking after sick foals and giving medications.

If you only have limited experience, you may find someone with a mare or two that are happy to give you some extra pocket money simply for watching their mares while they catch up on some sleep!



Foal Weaning

If you are already in the boarding/ livery/ agistment business and have the facilities to accommodate mares and foals, then you could perform the service of weaning foals for clients.

Knowledge of how to handle both mare and foal during separation is important. You will also need strong, safe and secure fencing to prevent injuries and horses breaking through them and injuries.



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Horse College

Groom

As a groom you will be responsible for some or all the management and care of horses. Grooms are most commonly employed in stables (i.e., racing, specialist competition trainers), agistment centres and riding schools.

Some employers offer “live-in” for their grooms which means they live on the property or location the horses are kept. Grooms may also be expected to accompany and care for horses at races or competitions.



Hair Testing Laboratory

A Hair Testing Laboratory arranges for horses' hair to be analysed by radionics, a non-scientific procedure with the main aim to keep horses at peak health and fitness.

If you already have knowledge of horses in the areas of blood flow, nutrition, body balancing, shiatsu, Bowen, and acupressure, then this could be your new career!



International
Horse College

Halters (Making)

Rope halter making is quite a simple process as all that is needed are lengths of different coloured rope and the knowledge on how and where to tie the knots to create the halter.

Other halter styles (i.e., leather, webbing) will require special tools to be able to work with the halter material.



With Equine
HORSE CHATS

Hand Made Crops and Whips

Handmade items are appealing to horse people as they indicate an item which has had time and detail put into it, often making it special or unique. If you like working with your hands, then hand making whips and crops may be suited to you. Your product can be promoted to customers through the internet, in stores and by mail order. You may even wish to cater to customer's individual tastes by making crops and whips to their specifications.



International
Horse College

Hay Bags (Making)

Another quick money maker could be making hay-bags.

To make hay-bags you may require a sewing machine (or plan to spend lots of time hand sewing). The materials shouldn't cost much, just hessian chaff bags, baling twine, and heavy thread.



Hay Delivery

If you know someone who grows and produces their own hay, then a business option for you could be to deliver the hay direct from the farm. Many horse owners are looking to save money so if you can offer discounts or deals for customers who buy in bulk or want deliveries then you are likely to get customers who continue to buy from you.



Horse College

Hay Delivery/Wholesale

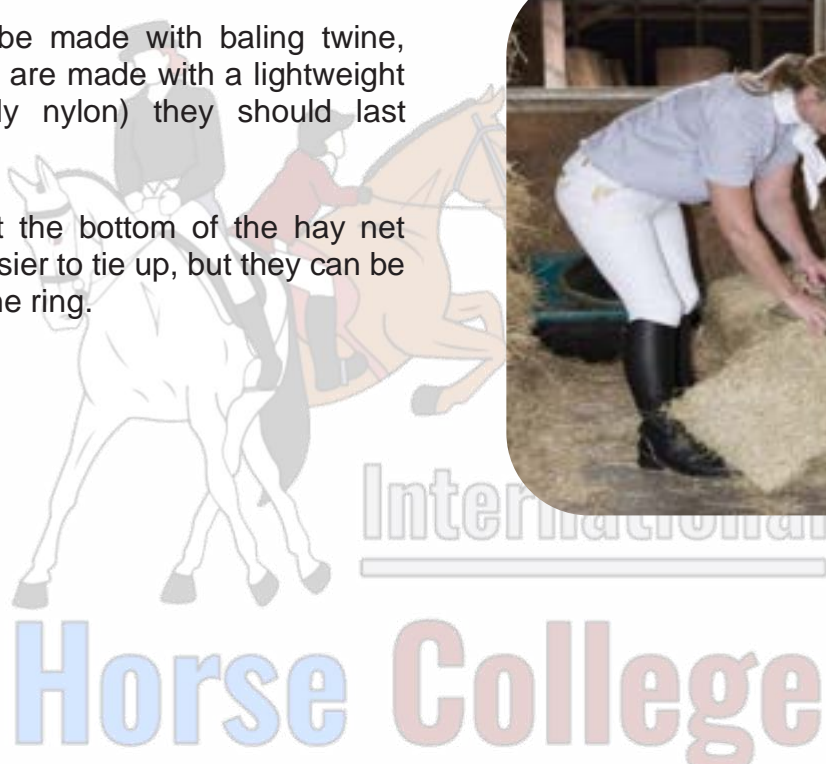
This takes the hay delivery up a notch. Rather than just dealing with one farmer, you could have a data base of farmers who grow and produce your own hay. If you guarantee to buy all the hay from the farmer, then the price is likely to be even lower. Many produce and feed stores would like to save money and have their hay delivered to them into their store.



Hay Nets (Making)

Hay nets can be made with baling twine, although if they are made with a lightweight rope (preferably nylon) they should last longer.

A metal ring at the bottom of the hay net makes them easier to tie up, but they can be made without the ring.



Horse Business Office Worker

For those that love to be involved in the horse industry without the heat and sweat of being outdoors or the freezing cold (especially in the hot and cold extreme climates) then work in administration type roles in horse businesses could be for you. The jobs and experience you will be required to have will vary between places of employment.



Horse Dealing

Traditionally horse dealers tend to have a bad reputation as being deceitful and dishonest. However, if you run your business in a manner which promotes professionalism, honesty, and care towards the horses for sale and the buyers then you can build yourself and your business a good reputation.



In horse dealing, large numbers of horses will be turned over and passed on to new buyers so if you get attached to animals in your care, then maybe this business isn't for you.

Who/ where you buy horses from to sell and how quickly you anticipate selling them on, is likely to influence how you run the business.

Horse Dentist

A horse dentist of course looks after the teeth of horses.

As with all the fields of horse health you will need to study and gain qualifications to practice as an equine dentist.

A horse dentist may work alongside a veterinarian in a veterinary practice, or they may be self-employed.



Horse Health Care Professional

As well as veterinarians, there are many other professionals who assist in the care and well-being of horses. It could be acupuncture, Bowen, chiropractic, or massage, the list is endless. Most of them require training, qualifications, or apprenticeships.



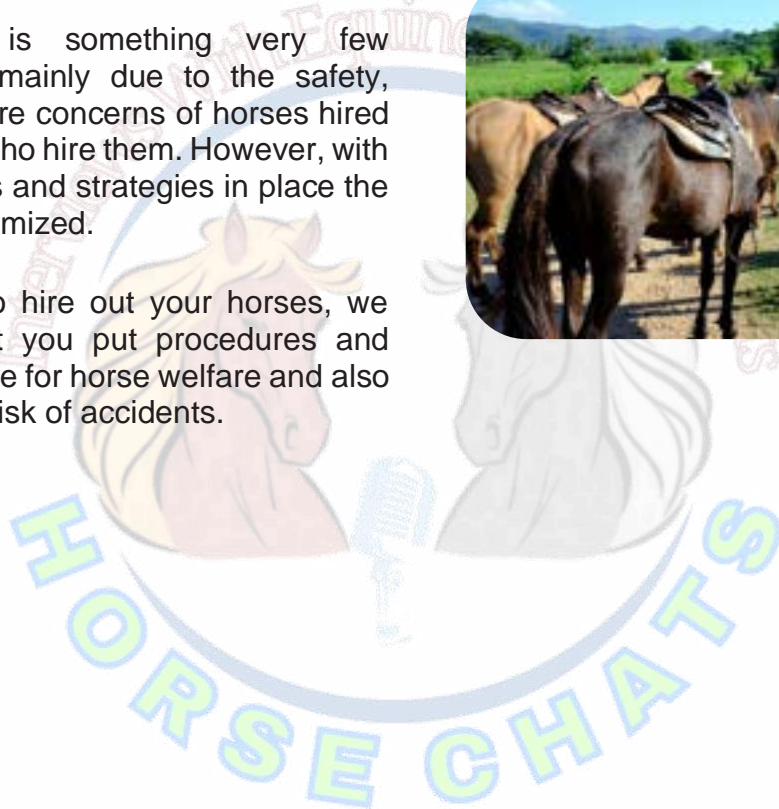
International

Horse College

Horse Hire

Hiring horses is something very few businesses do mainly due to the safety, health and welfare concerns of horses hired and the people who hire them. However, with good procedures and strategies in place the risks can be minimized.

If you choose to hire out your horses, we recommend that you put procedures and strategies in place for horse welfare and also to minimise the risk of accidents.



Horse Industry Accountant

Another essential for a horse business is an accountant.

You will need to be appropriately qualified as an accountant, but with your understanding of the many aspects where horse businesses are different to other businesses, you will be able to assist your clients to claim appropriate deductions on their tax.

Also, you could assist your clients to find areas where they could be investing that are compatible to their horse business.



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Horse Industry Lawyer

Having a horse business has legal requirements and some- times a lawyer needs to be consulted.

Being a lawyer requires qualifications/ certificates/ accreditations as a lawyer (depending on the state/country) but if you are already qualified and have an interest in horses, this is a great stream of extra income.



Horse Riding Instructor

Horse riding instructors can teach riders from a riding school situation (either on school horses or their own) or free-lance (teach at other people's homes and locations).

For the purposes of insurance and professionalism it is best to hold recognized qualifications within the horse and sport industries.



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Horse Riding Instructor Clinics/Schools

Many horse-riding instructors start their own business by working as contractors.

This is particularly more common with instructors who have competed at a specialist level.

They often teach for clubs and groups regularly and are paid by the day rather than by the student.

Often, they will go into a location for a weekend or even a week. For the purposes of insurance and professionalism it is best to hold recognised qualifications within the horse and sport industries.



Horse Sitting

Looking after peoples' horses while they are away can provide many money making opportunities during holiday periods.

To take on this responsibility you will need reliable transportation, competent skills, and knowledge in horse husbandry, be able to recognise signs of illness and be confident administering first aid to the sick horse.



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Horse Transport

If you want to combine your love of horses with your love of travel, then maybe a horse transport business is for you.

Transport companies mainly use trucks to move stock as they can carry a larger number of horses than horse floats or horse trailer.

Depending on the demand, trucks can travel locally, inter- state and country wide. People with truck licences can be hired to drive however it is of more benefit and I safer for all involved if drivers also have horse handling knowledge and experience.



Insurance for Horse Industry

Insurance in the horse industry is a big business. It has been of increasing importance for horse businesses in the past few years and continues to be especially where horse riding and employees are involved.



Horse College

Instructor Helper

There may be times when your instructor would like some help when they are teaching.

It may be to prepare a horse, help with the jumping rails, to lead a beginner in a lesson or simply to bring them a drink.

You may be paid in discounted or free lessons, or you may find that you love this job because the knowledge you gain is invaluable!



Jewellery

There is little horse themed jewellery available to the horse enthusiast. Your product can be promoted to customers through the internet, in stores and by mail order.

You may even wish to cater to customer's individual tastes by tailoring jewellery to their specific needs and wants. You could also create jewellery which is specific to a customer's own horse.



International Horse College

Jockey

Does the thought of feeling the wind in your face and the strength and power of a super fit thoroughbred propelling you across the finish line take your fancy? If you are a lightweight, then why not become a jockey?

To begin this career, you need to undertake an apprenticeship with a racehorse trainer and then before you can ride in races you will be assessed on your capabilities.

Once you complete your apprenticeship you will be a fully-fledged jockey.



Judge

Judging competitions will require a solid knowledge of the sport being judged and accreditation.

Although it is common for coaches and riders of proven experience and results in the discipline to judge at lower levels and in unofficial competition.

Assisting a judge at competitions (usually as a volunteer) is a good way to learn the rules of the competition and the required etiquette.



International
Horse College

Jump Wings Maker

For someone who know how to weld, this is a great little income earner.

A fairly simple design can make practical light jump wings and they are always in demand.

These jump wings can also have designs on them and sponsorship signs as well as large (easy to read) jump numbers.



Leadership Coach with Horses

Horses live in herds that are hierarchical in nature. This makes them very sensitive to leadership skills. In fact, if you teach leadership skills, chances are that your horse might decide he/she is the most dominant. This makes horses perfect partners when developing leadership skills that can also be applied to people.



As a leadership coach, you help your clients understand to be a good leader (for example body presence, calmness, authority etc) and apply these principles on horses in a safe environment. Horses will naturally respond to these cues or ignore them if they are poorly applied.

The leadership coach helps the client understand why the horse is responding as he/ she does. Leadership coaching with horses is a fantastic (and fun) way to become a better leader.

(Thanks to Charlotte Kingsman from www.naturalhorsemanshipindia.com for providing this information about her role as a Leadership Coach with Horses).

Manure Collection

Where there are horses there is manure. Collecting manure regularly is a part of good pasture management, especially for those on small horse properties. Unfortunately, it is often time consuming so why not offer your services as a horse “pooper scooper”?

Picking manure up from paddocks, yards and stables can be arranged to be performed daily, weekly, or monthly. After collecting it from the area you dump it in a manure pile on the same property. Equipment needed will be a manure fork, bucket, and wheelbarrow.



Manure Selling

In the right location selling manure can be profitable.

You'll need empty feedbags to put the manure into and twine or string to tie them closed (baling twine is perfect!) or alternatively people can bring their trailers and fill up from your manure pile.

A hobby business of collecting, removing, and selling manure can be quite profitable!



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Manure Removal

Once manure has been collected from paddocks you may be able to make some cash taking manure off people's hands.

You'll need a trailer and a vehicle which can tow a trailer.



Mounted Police

If you're interested in law enforcement, then a career in the mounted police might be for you. You will need to complete police training and could do several years in a local area command before you can be eligible to transfer to the mounted police unit. Mounted police are responsible for the care and management of horses in the unit and must attend regular training and instruction to maintain their skills and their horse's skills.



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Horse College

Mushroom Farm

Why not start another business to complement your existing horse business and turn horse manure into profit and farm mushrooms or worms. Mushroom can be sold onto consumers directly (i.e., through internet orders, roadside stands) or through retailers.

Worms from the worm farm could be used to sell onto people who wish to start their own worm farms or perhaps you could sell start-up kits that included worms and everything a person needs to start their own worm farm.



HORSE CHATS

Mustering/Droving

Mustering or droving means that you move livestock (often cattle or sheep) from one location to another and it could be while riding a horse.

You will be responsible for herding the animals over long distances, often for weeks or months at a time. The job of a drover can involve a variety of tasks, such as selecting the best route for the livestock, maintaining the health and welfare of the animals and ensuring they have access to food and water along the way.

While the role of the drover has evolved over time, it remains an important part of the livestock industry in many parts of the world.



NDIS Support Worker

Support NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) clients and take them to riding lessons or if they have their own horse, support them to care for their horse.

This is not always about the horse or your pre-set routine, it has to be about your client and their wants and needs.



Nose Bags (Making)

Nose bags are fitted to the horse's nose by a strap passing behind the ears.

They are used to feed horses without the hassle of carting around feed bins and containers (most often used by those mustering cattle).

Traditionally nose bags tended to be made out of hessian but be innovative and design nose bags which are unique, colourful with different designs and patterns.



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Horse College

Pasture Manager

The role of a pasture manager is to oversee the day-to-day operations of managing the pasture. This includes regularly checking the condition of the pasture and ensuring that it is maintained at optimal conditions for maximum nutrition. This may require the use of fertilizers and proper watering techniques.

Then pasture manager should also have a keen understanding of how to balance the nutrition needs of the animals with the capacity of the land.

Overall, the pasture manager plays a critical role in ensuring the health and well-being of the animals under their care.



Pasture Management Advisor

This career involves providing advice and assistance to people in how to management their property or pastures more effectively.

This role requires extensive knowledge, experience and qualifications in areas such as animal nutrition, agriculture, pasture production, animal management and animal health.



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Party Ponies

Here's a good way for those wee little equines to earn their keep. A party pony is just as it sounds a business where ponies are taken to a party for pony rides. Depending upon the number of ponies available customers can select the colour and number of ponies they want. Grey and light-coloured ponies can even be dyed different colours (using coloured food dye)!

Remember to take into consideration the cost of travel when working out prices of hire. Ponies will need to be quiet to handle and accustomed to different sights and sounds that come with party environments.



Photography

There is a potentially large client base for photography in the horse industry. Studs use photos to advertise stallions and stock for sale or auction, at competitions and show events photos are used to record important place getters (e.g., supreme champion), magazines and written publications use photos in articles. Then there's advertisements with photos for horse-related gear and equipment. Also, at competitions photographers will snap pictures of each rider during their event (e.g., during a dressage test or over a cross country fence) and the rider can then buy copies of their photos. Another option is to take portrait type photos for owners in their own settings.



Horse College

Podcast Host

If you enjoy talking about horses, then podcasting is a developing industry.

You could partner with some-one who already has a knowledge of setting up and broadcasting podcasts and then bring into the partnership your specialist knowledge about horses.



Pony Leasing

If you (or your children) have grown out of their pony and you have a few spare quality ponies that are suitable for showing, then there is an opportunity to lease these ponies for others to show.

This saves other children (and their parents) from continually upgrading to a bigger/different pony each season.

Simply upgrade the rider into another one of your ponies as they grow taller or progress through the ranks.



International
Horse College

Racehorse Rehoming

Racehorse rehoming is the process of finding new homes and careers for retired racehorses. When racehorses are no longer able to compete, they are typically retired from the racing industry. At this point, they can be prepared for their new career.

Racehorse rehoming is an important aspect of equine welfare, as it provides retired racehorses with a second chance at a comfortable and fulfilling life after their racing careers have ended. It also helps to address the issue of slaughter of unwanted horses.



Restoration for Stables and Horse Equipment

Old horse equipment has value in historical and antique aspects. But as time goes by the functioning and safety of old equipment is affected by things like rotting wood and rusting metal.

Carpentry skills would be beneficial in restoring wooden equipment like carriages while blacksmith skills would be useful in restoring metal equipment such as horse drawn planters.



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Riding School

The size of the riding school will determine how many staff you will need or if you need to employ other people to assist in the running of the business.

Size will also influence the facilities you have (i.e., how many arenas/riding areas are needed) and the day-to-day processes involved (i.e., are horses kept as a herd or in individual paddocks).



Ring Steward

Do you like to get involved at competitions but don't like the stress of the preparation that comes with it?

Ring stewarding is a great way to be involved with horses and horse events without actually having to compete.

Ring stewards organize classes, take entries, assist the judge in handing out prizes and take the names of horse and rider placegetters.



International
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Saddlery Repairs

If you have some basic hand tools and are handy with a needle and thread, saddlery repairs can be a constant income for you!

Saddlery often breaks and it is usually cheaper to mend working gear than to buy a new replacement.

Once people know that you are available for quick repairs then your work could be in demand, especially at competitions.



HORSE CHATS

Saddlery/Tack Store

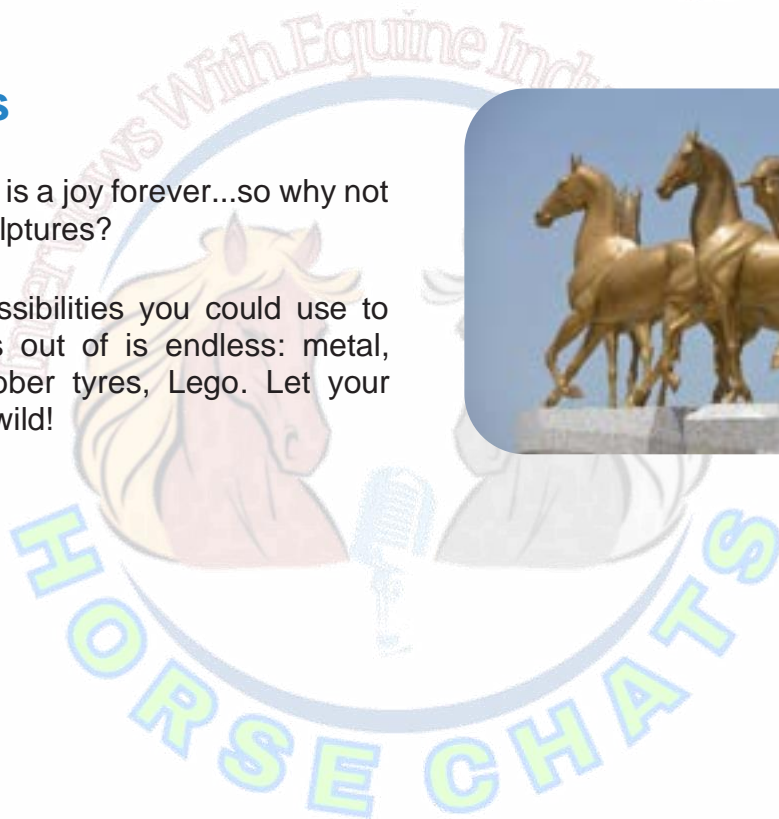
Saddlery businesses sell new and sometimes used saddlery and horse related equipment which may include veterinary products (i.e., syringes, bandages, dressings), rugs and rider apparel.



Sculptures

A thing of beauty is a joy forever...so why not create horse sculptures?

The medium possibilities you could use to make sculptures out of is endless: metal, wood, trash, rubber tyres, Lego. Let your imagination run wild!



Seamstress/Clothes Designer for Horse People

If working directly with horses isn't your thing perhaps dressing the people who do is up your alley. Designing or supplying clothing for horse people can mean everything from jeans, jodhpurs, boots, hats, helmets, socks, slippers, gloves, ties, vests, jackets, shirts and even underwear! Competition clothing will need to be suitable for the discipline it is designed for and should adhere to rules, regulations, and guidelines.



This type of business is flexible in that it can be operated through a number of different avenues such as over the internet, direct to the public from a permanent shop address and even by phone or mail order.

Sheath Cleaner

This one probably isn't at the top of everyone's list but that's also why it could be an extra stream of income.

Geldings and stallions need their sheaths cleaned regularly to maintain hygiene and prevent infection. This involves removing waxy debris from the sheath and penis of a stallion/gelding.

Experience in cleaning sheaths is necessary along with some very basic equipment such as rubber gloves and buckets.



Show Jumping Course Designer

Although this may progress into a full-time career at the top level, there are many show jumping course designers who are volunteers.

If you volunteer your time to assist the course designer, you will be asked to move rails and wings.

However, if you talk to the designer to understand why they have designed the course the way they have, this could be a step in the right direction to be a Show Jumping Course Designer.

The competition organizers may pay a token amount to cover your expenses.



Show Jumping Judge

If you have been a successful show jumping rider, you may be asked to judge a show jumping event. You should already know the rules, so it is often a natural progression to become a judge.

If you love the sport, you may be able to ride and compete in the higher levels and judge the lower levels to assist with the organisation of the competition.

Although you may commence this position as a volunteer, you could progress to higher levels, even at an international level where your travelling and accommodation expenses are paid along with a pre-set amount to cover your additional expenses.



Show Preparation

Competitors with lots of horses or little time often need help to prepare their horse/horses for shows and competition.

Show preparation could include shampooing, pulling manes, pulling tails, braiding, rosettes, cleaning gear, preparing the float/truck, packing gear and equipment, applying make-up (horses) and painting hooves.

Having the ability to turn horses out to a high standard is very important.

Consider if you are going to charge by the hour or by the job you perform.



International
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Software Developer for Equine Activities

As the equine industry continues to grow, there is a need for more specialised software to help businesses streamline their operations and improve their efficiency. This may include more accurate data analysis around horse health records, tracking training progress, horse health records, lesson booking, invoicing and financial records.

If you have a passion for technology and an understanding of software development, you could play a crucial role in the implementation of technology to transform the equine industry.



Spare Wheel/Tyre Covers

Horse people like to promote their affiliation with horses in many ways. Horse designs on spare wheel/tyre covers is one way we horse people show our devotion to our beloved equines and the sport/discipline we participate in.

This business can sell product online, in shops and by mail order. A good way to promote this business could be to offer sponsorship of a competition class or provide winners or runners up with a prize of a spare wheel/ tyre cover.



International
Horse College

Stable Manager

The stable manager has the responsibility of the health and welfare of all the horses in their care.

They are also responsible for the management of staff and other equine professionals (blacksmith/ farrier, veterinarian/horse health care) and well as management of budget, purchase of hay, horse feed and other necessities.

Stable managers should have expert skills in all areas of horse care and management as well as finance.



Stallion Services

Stallion services could include offering services such as stallion handling, training, and standing at stud.

People working with stallions must have knowledge of behaviours common to stallions and must be confident and experienced in their handling especially around other horses.



International
Horse College

Starting Young Horses

As long as there are horses being bred there will be a market for horses to be started or broken in. Some facilities will be desirable such as yards, round yard or small pen or arena.

Areas for working need to be sturdy and secure as work may include handling young horses which have had minimal handling and experience with people.

A strong knowledge of horse training and behaviour is essential along with strong riding skills. An option in this avenue is to specialize in an area of starting young horses, for example starting horses for racing, dressage, or harness activities. It is a good idea to start this career working for a good horse man who is already working with young horses.



Stud

To run a stud, you will need good quality breeding stock of your breed choice. Nowadays with semen able to be transported frozen and the use of artificial insemination a stud does not need to have their own stallion.

You will need a knowledge of horse reproductive systems and cycles, pregnant mares, stallions, and foaling. It is also of a benefit to you in the long run if you do your research and have knowledge of the preferred traits and characteristics of the breed you are interested in.

This way when it comes time to sell your bred stock it will be of good quality and type which will bring a better price.



Stud Master

To manage a stud, you will need to be able to select what is good quality breeding stock of your breed choice.

You should have an excellent knowledge of serving stallions, handling young horses and high-strung horses, as well as teaching staff about safety around breeding horses.

You will be more in demand if you have a knowledge of horse reproductive systems and cycles, pregnant mares, stallions and foaling as well as preferred traits and characteristics of the breed you are interested in.



Stunt Rider

Looking for an adrenalin pumped career? Why not have a go at being a stunt rider? Stunt riders often start as trick riders and perform on specially trained horses and perform tricks and positions whilst on the horse, usually at speed.



International Horse College

Tax Returns

Qualifications, knowledge of and experience in bookkeeping / accounting will be needed for working with numbers in doing tax returns for horse businesses.

You might work with the horse business each week or each month keeping their books up to date and getting ready for their return, or you may check their annual return before it is lodged.



Therapeutic Riding Instructor/RDA Coach

Coaching systems and qualifications are in place to help people become riding instructors for the disabled. A therapeutic riding instructor is responsible for assessing riders, planning lessons, training volunteers, maintaining records, supervising trainees & assistant coaches and conducting riding sessions. You can become an assistant coach or a qualified coach.



Track Work Rider

Riding track work involves early morning starts putting racehorses through their paces to train and get them ready and fit for races. This occupation is not for the faint hearted or novice rider.

Track work riding requires and great level of fitness and stamina to be able to ride multiple horses at speed for a significant period of time.

You also need to be confident in handling and riding horses at various stages of training including the very young and green-broke (just broken into carrying a saddle and rider).

Keep in mind that this involves riding horses which are super fit and often kept in a stable for most of the day.



Tractor Slashing

If you are self-employed then slashing (cutting grass) will require you to have your own tractor, slasher, and truck for transporting the equipment to the job location.

Experience with tractors is a must and you are likely to need a licence to drive the truck which transports the tractor. Mechanical knowledge would also be advantageous in this career.



International
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Trail Ride Assistant

Many people who aspire to be a trail ride leader start their training as a trail ride assistant.

You will need to follow the trail routine, take direction from the trail ride leader, and help to keep the riders safe and comfortable.

Horse care, horse handling and horse-riding skills are essential, as well as physical fitness.



Trail Ride Drag

If your favourite type of riding is on trail, consider working in a trail riding establishment.

As well as preparation of the trail ride and finishing up after the trail ride, you will be required to care for the horses and equipment. As long as you can walk, trot and canter as well as pop over a low jump you will probably be asked to join the trail ride and your first task may be to ride as the 'Trail Ride Drag'.

The Trail Ride Drag brings up the rear of the ride and is the last rider.



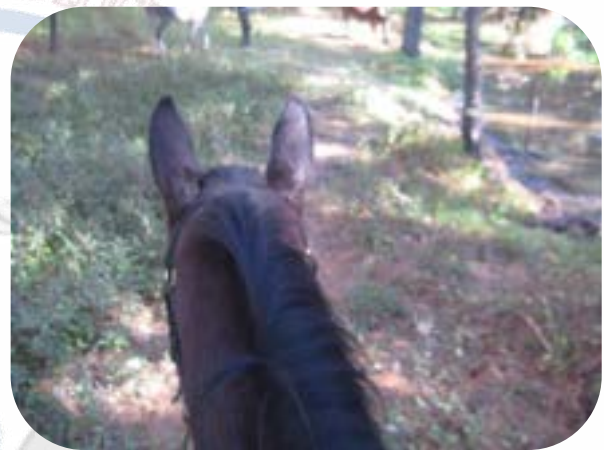
International
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Trail Ride Leader/Front Rider

Do you love trail riding to teach people about horses and would also love to spend a lot of time riding? If you enjoy riding outdoors and meeting new people, then this one might be for you.

A trail ride leader is responsible for leading groups of people out on trail rides safely. They could be nervous beginners or boisterous teenagers or a great range of people in between.

You will need to be physically fit as long hours will be spent in the saddle. It is also likely you will be working with people who do not speak the native language (i.e., non-English speakers).



Trail Ride Rover

If you would like more responsibility on a trail ride, the Trail Ride Rover is able to rove up and down the ride, watch all the riders and give instruction to the trail ride leader and the trail ride drag.

They take responsibility for the full ride, the trails they take, turn up for lunch on time (when appropriate) and bring the ride back in on time.



International
Horse College

Trail Riding/Trekking Centre

If you enjoy riding outdoors and meeting new people, then this one might be for you.

Operating trail riding centre involves offering people(, often those who have never ridden) horse rides into the great outdoors.

This business requires having a variety of different horses to cater to a range of different levels of riders from the nervous beginner to the capable rider.

Incorporated into the running of a trail riding centre is managing horse health, welfare and safety, rider safety, property management, equipment maintenance, administration, and customer service.



Trainer/Rider

Horse trainers and riders take horses for training and education in different disciplines.

If the horse is kept at the trainer's location, then an agistment/ livery/ boarding fee and sometimes a feeding fee is also charged to the client along with the cost of educating the horse.

Once the horse has had some training, the owner usually has some lessons on the horse, so a complementary role is as a coach.



International
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Training Film/Movie Horses

Training any horse requires patience and understanding of horse behaviour and how they learn.

As a trainer of horses used for movies you will be teaching horses to perform certain behaviours on command.

To operate this business, you will also need transportation to move the horses to the desired locations and film industry familiarity.



Trimming for Presentation

Owners who participate in horse shows and competitions prefer their horses to have a polished appearance. However, not all owners have the time or desire to handle the trimming themselves. Trimming a horse can involve removing excess hair from various areas like the legs, fetlocks, pasterns, coronet, ears, head, and tail dock.



A trimmer should possess experience and skills to meet the standards required for show and competition presentation. Trimming clippers are necessary, with smaller ones being more suitable for delicate areas, although some horses may be sensitive to them. Owning your own clippers ensures regular maintenance and sharp blades, but pricing should consider the cost of equipment and travel to the job location to avoid operating at a loss.

International
College

Toy Designer/Manufacturer

If you have a great idea for a kid's horse toy, then this is an idea you may wish to follow up on. If you have the idea, but not the final design then have a look around some toy stores either in your area (or on the internet) to expand your ideas of what is currently available to ensure your toy is different.



Veterinarian/Veterinary Surgeon

If you have a passion for maintaining horse health and wellbeing (and don't get squeamish at the site of blood and other obnoxious excretions) consider undertaking studies to become a veterinarian.

Equine vets travel to treat patients, but some also have, or have access to, practice and surgery facilities which can accommodate large animals such as horses.

Becoming a vet will require university study. A Bachelor of Veterinary Science may take five years of full-time study to complete. After completion students may have the option to complete higher levels of study in this field.



Veterinary Nurse

If you love to look after horses and their wellbeing, try your hand at veterinary nursing.

Some equine veterinary clinics and surgeries employ people as stable hands so even if you don't have qualifications as a vet nurse it provides the opportunity for you to work your way up the ladder and learn as you go.

Some Veterinary Nursing courses will allow you to specialise in equine care and treatment.



Vocational Education Teacher for Equine Studies

If a school near you delivers equine vocational education (like in partnership through International Horse College) then if you have the appropriate qualifications, this could be your new career in the horse industry.

Apply direct to the school with your resume, copies of relevant qualifications as well as referees for them to contact. You should be familiar with the curriculum that should be delivered.

(Information and photo supplied from Karen Eggleston who is a Vocational Education Teacher at Victory College, Gympie for the Equine course that is delivered in partnership with International Horse College).



Volunteer Manager

This can be a paid job or one that is done as a volunteer.

Many equine organisations have to rely on volunteers who need to be managed, and someone has to wrangle them!

(Information and photo supplied from Kate Calamatta who is a Volunteer Manager and Scheduler at a Hippotherapy Centre in the USA).



Washing blankets and rugs

Washing blankets and rugs can be useful for making a bit of pocket money. Most horse people give blankets a thorough clean regularly through the year and the rugs a thorough clean as they are put away in the summer.



Ideally you will need an industrial washing machine or at the least an old spare washing machine.

Alternatively, you can use a gurney to wash and clean dirty horse wear.

International
Horse College

Websites (Making)

The internet has become part of everyday life for many, many people and having a website for business has become just as important as getting an advertisement into the yellow pages!

If you have experience setting up websites and enjoy working with technology, creating web-sites for horse businesses could be a wise choice for you.



Wedding/Events Venue

One of the most common events you will see carriages at is special occasions such as weddings and school formals.

Of course, you will need horses and carriages to execute this business. Some customers are likely to have a preference to the colour of horse used when hiring a carriage so if you have different colours of horses, you're more likely to be able to cater to their needs.

The horses will need to be of a suitable type for the carriage or weight they are going to pull. They also need to be experienced and trained to accept all the strange and unusual things that come with working in traffic and populated areas. Carriages will need to be regularly maintained to ensure they are safe and well presented.

Experience and knowledge of driving carriages and preparing horses for the carriage (e.g., fitting and adjusting equipment) is essential. Being able to professionally turnout and present horse and handler will also benefit the business and reputation.

Writer/Author

Maybe you prefer to entertain, inform, or inspire people through literature? There is always something new to learn in the world of horses and you could bring this to your intended audience through publications in the form of books, blogs, newsletters, and newspapers. Or maybe entertain people through fictional literature where horses are the theme.



Worm Farm

Why not start another business to complement your existing horse business and turn horse manure into profit and farm mushrooms or worms.

Mushroom can be sold onto consumers directly (i.e., through internet orders, roadside stands) or through retailers.

Worms from the worm farm could be used to sell onto people who wish to start their own worm farms or perhaps you could sell start-up kits that included worms and everything a person needs to start their own worm farm.



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X-Country Fences Building/Making

As a fence designer and/or builder you can create jumps to cater for a variety of needs such as fixed fences (not transportable), mobile fences (transportable) and water fences.

Knowledge of building and equestrian jump styles/types and current competition rules in relation to fence heights and widths is necessary.



The Number 1 Way to Have a Career with Horses

Now that you have read through the other ways of having a career with horses (or more importantly a lifestyle with horses), you will have already expanded your mind to the many opportunities that are available in the horse industry and associated industries. The number one way to have a fantastic life with horses is ... to have an open mind and to look for opportunities.

Think about the inventions that have been made with horses and the new jobs that are now available within just the last twenty years! Equine scientists have new discoveries and technology is advancing at an unprecedented speed.

I predict that over the next decade or so many, many new horse industry products will be invented and at the same time there will be many, many new careers in the horse industry.

My recommendation is that you have an open mind, develop a great work ethic, continue to learn and get the qualifications to prove you have progressed your skills and knowledge and looked for opportunities.

Working with horses can be the type of lifestyle that others dream about. People will tell you that you are 'lucky' but this is not entirely true.

Choosing one career pathway before you start would be impossible. The world is changing so fast now and there are more opportunities than ever.

As you travel through your horse career, have these four things in mind.

- Be resilient.
- Love learning.
- Develop a strong work ethic.
- Be open minded about looking for opportunities.

If you can continuously do that then you will have the type of career with horses that you are currently dreaming about.



Please Let Me Know!

If you really want to have a career with horses anything is possible ... so ... have an open mind and look for opportunities.

Please let me know about how this book has helped you to improve your lifestyle with horses and how you have been able to change your career, open your horse business, expand your horse (or other) business, and increase your financial rewards.

If you know of another career (especially if it is one you are involved in) and would like to have it published in the next edition, then please send us the details. You can also add a photo and your details (and business details) so they can be added within the book.

I would love to hear from you!

Glenys 😊

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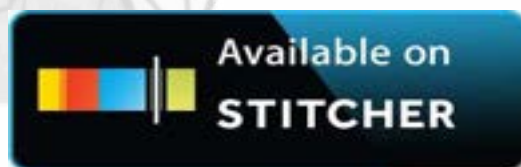
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