

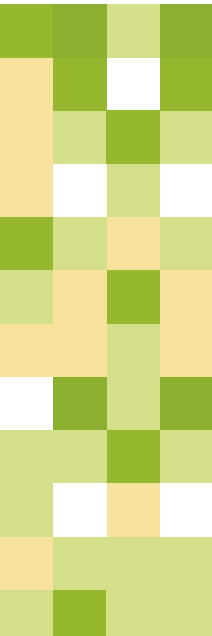
Welfare of Animals During Transport



Advice for transporters
of horses, ponies and other
domestic equines



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Detailed guidance, forms and further advice can be found on the website at:

www.wales.gov.uk/animalwelfare

or by contacting the:

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A new EU Regulation for transporting animals applies from 5 January 2007.

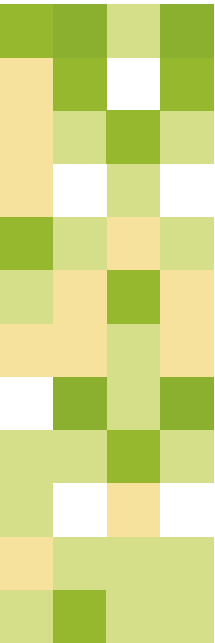
If you transport animals you should make sure you know about the new rules and procedures that affect you. These rules are intended to improve the welfare of horses and ponies during transport. **The rules came into force on 5 January 2007** and apply to anyone transporting live vertebrate animals in connection with an economic activity.

There are a number of specific points that anyone transporting horses and ponies needs to take account of. These are summarised in this leaflet. More detailed guidance can be found on the website at: www.wales.gov.uk/animalwelfare

Are you affected by the new rules?

The Regulation sets out new rules for those who transport animals in connection with an economic activity. In the UK this is considered to be any transport of any animals undertaken as part of a business or commercial activity, which aims at achieving financial gain, whether direct or indirect, for any person or company involved with the transport. The Regulation does not apply to:

- Transportation of animals not in connection with an economic activity.
- Transportation to or from veterinary practices or clinics under veterinary advice.



The Regulation requires everyone transporting animals on any journey to ensure that:

- No one shall transport animals, or cause them to be transported, in a way likely to cause them injury or undue suffering.
- Journey times are kept to a minimum.
- The animals are fit to travel.
- Those handling animals are trained and competent.
- The vehicle and its loading & unloading facilities are designed, constructed and maintained to avoid injury and suffering and to ensure the safety of the animals.
- Water, feed and opportunity to rest are given to the animals as needed and sufficient floor space and height is available in the transport.
- For non-export journeys, documentation is provided which shows the following: origin and ownership of animals; place of departure and destination; date and time of departure and expected duration of journey (usually referred to as an Animal Transport Certificate).

The Regulation sets out additional requirements if you transport horses and ponies on ‘short’ journeys over 65km (approximately 40 miles) and up to 8 hours.

Transporters must:

- Hold a Type 1 transporter authorisation.

- Ensure (from the 5 January 2008) that driver, and attendants, are in possession of a certificate of competence.
- Demonstrate that they have appropriate staff and equipment to transport animals in a proper way and to have no record of serious infringements of animal welfare legislation in the preceding 3 years.

There are in addition to the above, a number of requirements for 'long' journeys of over 8 hours. Transporters of horses and ponies must:

- Hold a Type 2 transporter authorisation.
- Have any vehicle used for transporting horses and ponies inspected and approved.
- Have contingency plans in place in case of emergencies.
- Complete a Journey Log where unregistered horses and ponies are being exported.

Specific requirements

Journey times

Journey times and rest periods remain unchanged from the previous rules. They do not apply to registered horses and ponies - see page 6.

Maximum journey times (hours)

	Basic Standard vehicle	Higher standard vehicle		
		Travel		
Horses and ponies	8	24 (given liquid, and fed if necessary, every 8 hours)		
		Travel	Rest	Travel
Unweaned foals	8	9	1	9

- Journey time is from first animal loaded to last animal unloaded.
- Journey time spent on Roll-On/Roll-Off (RO-RO) vessels counts towards the journey time.
- Time spent by animals in stalls or pens on specialist livestock vessels does not count towards total journey time, provided certain conditions are met.
- Time whilst on the aircraft during air transport does not count towards total journey time.

General

- Horses and ponies older than 8 months must wear halters during transport - unless they are unbroken horses.
- If horses or ponies are transported on a multi-deck vehicle they must only be carried on the lowest deck, with no other animals above them. In this circumstance the compartment

height must be at least 75cm higher than the height of the withers of the highest animal.

- Horses and ponies must be transported in individual stalls when the vehicle is on a RO-RO vessel, with the exception that a mare may travel with her foal.
- Unbroken horses and ponies must not be transported in groups of more than four animals.

Long journeys (over 8 hours)

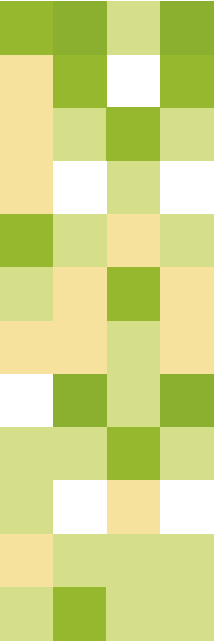
- Unregistered horses must be over 4 months old, except if accompanied by their dam.
- Unbroken horses must not be transported on long journeys.
- Horses must be transported in individual stalls, with the exception of a mare travelling with her foal.

Ramp angles for loading and unloading

The Regulation stipulates a new maximum ramp angle of:

- 20° for horses (36.4% slope, equivalent to a rise of 4 over distance of 11).
- Ramp side gates may not be needed if horses are halter led during loading/unloading.

Vehicles and trailers built and in use before 5 January 2007, which comply with ramp angle requirements set out in the previous legislation,



may continue to be used within the UK until 4 January 2012 if it impractical or uneconomical to convert or alter to comply with the new rules.

Registered horses and ponies

A 'registered' horse or pony means one that is registered in studbooks or with international organisations managing competitions (as defined in Directive 90/426/EEC and 90/427/EEC) - this does not mean having a horse passport. Exemptions in the Regulation for registered horses and ponies, if accompanied throughout by a dedicated attendant and the journey is to improve their health and welfare permit:

- Mares to be transported during the final 10% of their gestation period.
- Mares to be transported within one week of giving birth.
- Foals with an unhealed navel to be transported with their dam.

Exemptions in the Regulation for registered horses and ponies on a journey of more than 8 hours (unless being transported to a market or slaughterhouse) permit:

- Transport without the requirement for a Journey Log.
- Transport without being restricted by water and feed intervals, journey times, and rest periods as set for unregistered horses and ponies.

- Transport of animals of four months or younger without being accompanied by their dam.

Separation

Horses and ponies must be handled and transported separately from other species*. The following separations must also be applied:

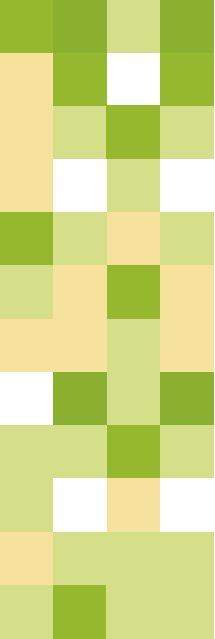
- Horses and ponies of significantly different sizes or ages*.
- Adult breeding stallions from each other.
- Sexually mature males from females.
- Animals hostile to each other.
- Tied animals from untied animals.

Space allowances

Space allowances for road transport remain unchanged from previous rules.

Category	Area (m ² /animal)
Adult horses	1.75 m ²
Young horses (6-24 months old) for journeys of up to 48 hours	1.2 m ²
Young horses (6-24 months old) for journeys over 48 hours	2.4 m ²
Ponies (under 144cm)	1.0 m ²
Foals (0-6 months)	1.4 m ²

* This need not apply where animals have been raised in compatible groups, are accustomed to each other, and where separation would cause distress; or where animals are accompanied by dependent young.



During long journeys, foals and young horses must be able to lie down. The Regulation also notes that more space may be needed to take account of actual circumstances.

Temperature within vehicle

- The temperature within the vehicle must not fall below 0°C during a journey of more than 8 hours.

Vehicle partitions

The Regulation does not define dimensions for partitions but they must:

- Be strong enough to withstand the weight of animals.
- Have strong fittings designed for quick and easy operation.

On vehicles used for journeys of over 8 hours, partitions must be:

- Fitted so that separate compartments may be formed.
- Adjustable to suit the specific needs of the animals being transported.

Further advice

This leaflet provides a brief overview of the requirements of the EU Regulation with regards to horses and ponies. Other leaflets are available covering requirements for sheep, goats, pigs, cattle and poultry.