

# Horse Racing Glossary

Term	Description
Accumulator Bet	An accumulator bet is one bet made up of multiple selections that are combined in one bet. All of the selections need to come in for the bet to win. Called an accumulator in England.
Action	A horse's manner of moving. A horse may be said to have "a smooth action".
Action	The way a horse moves.
Added money	Money added, usually by the racing association, to nomination and entry fees.
ADW	Stands for Advanced Deposit Wagering, refers mostly to online wagering hubs and websites.
Age	January 1st is the birth date for all Thoroughbred horses.
Agent	A person who handles a jockey's riding assignments. Jockey agents are usually colorful characters with lots of spunk and personality. Generally the top jockeys have the top agents.
All Bet	Means that you are using every horse in the race in some form of combination. Such as 4/all/all in the tri-fecta, meaning that if #4 wins you have every horse for 2nd and 3rd.
All Out	When a horse runs to the extent of their ability.
All Weather Racing (AWT)	Most racecourses outside America consider dirt racing to be all weather racing. A dirt or similar surface such as tapeta or other synthetic is commonly known as an AWT (All Weather Track).
All-Age Race	A race for horses older than 2 years of age.
Allowance race	A non-claiming race for which weight assignments, or allowances, are determined according to published conditions.
Allowances	Reduction in required weight handicaps due to conditions like an apprentice jockey, a young horse for the field or a mare racing against males.
Also Eligible	An animal who has been entered into a race but not allowed to start unless the field is reduced by scratches.
Also eligible(AE)	In an overflow field, the horses that can draw into the race if there's a scratch.
Also ran	A horse that doesn't finish in the top trio.
Also Ran	An animal that ran the race but didn't place above 4th or qualify for purse money.
Also-Ran	When a horse doesn't finish in the money, it's listed as an also-ran. This is also a slang for anything that's not good.
Apprentice	A jockey who has been riding for less than a year or who hasn't won at least 45 races. Horses ridden by apprentices are allowed to carry five less pounds, sometimes more.
Apprentice	Also called bug buy, a rider who has yet to ride a specific number of winners in a specified period of time.
Apprentice Allowance	Weight concession for an apprentice rider.
Apron	Area between the grandstand and the track.
ART	Artificial Turf
At The Post	A term meaning that all horses are secure in the starting gate and ready for the race to begin. Post Time equals race time.
ATS	Against The Spread
AWT	All weather track

Baby	A 2-year-old, especially early in the year. Also referred to as a juvenile.
Baby race	A race for 2-year-olds, usually at short distances in the spring and summer. Also Juvenile Race.
Baby Race	Limited to 2 year old animals.
Back Marker	For standing start events the animal with the largest handicap is the black marker.
Backside	Stable area of the track.
Backside	The stable area.
Backstretch	The straight away on the far side of the track.
Backstretch	The straightaway opposite the homestretch, usually from the three-quarter-mile pole to the three-eighths pole.
Backstretch	This is the straight area on the racetrack between the turns.
Bad actor	A horse that repeatedly misbehaves and proves troublesome.
Bandage	If you're going to wager on a horse and you see that the racing form says "bandages," this means that the horse has cloth wrapped around its legs on the lower part.
Bandages	In a race, bandages are sometimes used for support or protection.
Bar shoe	A protective horseshoe that has a bar enclosing it to help support the heel of the hoof.
Barrier	Also called the tape, this is an elastic band used in steeple chasing instead of a starting gate.
Barrier Draw	The ballot used to determine which starting stall each animal will occupy.
Bat	A jockey whip.
Bay	A horse color, varying from tan to bright auburn, with the mane and tail black.
Bear in or out	To deviate from a straight course.
Bearing In or Out	Moving off a straight course, can be due to fatigue, injury or rider error.
Bell	Signal that sounds when the starting gate opens, also signifies the end of betting.
Beyer number, or speed figure	A quantitative measure of performance that appears in The Daily Racing Form, so-called because the numbers were refined and popularized by Andy Beyer. It is supposed to measure how fast a horse really ran, as opposed to just final times. The higher the number is supposedly better, with any number over 100 being stellar. A word of caution though, it is far from infallible and should only be one of many tools used in handicapping.
Big Red	Nickname applied to two famous chestnuts
Bill Daly	The lead, so named for a famous trainer who used to instruct jockeys to go to the lead at the start and improve their position.
Bit	A stainless steel, rubber or aluminum bar attached to the bridle and fitting in the horse's mouth; used to guide and control the horse.
Black	The color of some horses.
Black type	Boldface type used in sales catalogs to identify horses that have won or placed in stakes races.
Blanket Finish	A finish so close one blanket could cover both finishing horses.
Blanket Finish	Horses finishing so closely in a race that they could be covered by a "blanket."

Blanket Finish	When you see a race where a cluster of horses crosses the wire at once, it's called a blanket finish. This is one of those situations where a photo finish might happen.
Bleeder	A horse that suffers exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhaging.
Bleeder	The condition can sometimes be controlled, the effects mollified, with the diuretic Lasix (Salix). Such horses might slow abruptly when their breathing is inhibited.
Blew the turn	means the horse did not corner properly going into the turn, ran wide and most likely had a disastrous finish.
Blind Switch	Being caught in between horses or against the rail and blocked from a free course.
Blinkers	A hood made of fabric, with cups sewn onto the eye openings. The hood is fitted to the horse's head. The cups force the horse to look straight ahead, removing any visual distractions during races.
Bloodline	A horse's pedigree, basically his/her lineage. This information is kept for many generations to prove a race horses bloodlines are pure.
Blowout	A short workout a day or two before a race to prepare the animal.
Blow-out	A short, brisk workout.
Blue Hen Mare	A mare which is a prolific producer of quality offspring. In addition, her sons and/or daughters also have a significant impact on the breed; i.e., Grey Flight, La Troienne.
Bobble	A misplaced step away from the starting gate, usually caused by footing.
Bobbled	Took a bad step, often times at the start of the race.
Body Parts of the Horse	A list of parts and appendages of the horse such as hoof, fetlock, mane, muzzle, etc.
Boil-over	Reference to a longshot winner and unexpected outcome of a race. Also a reference to a heavy favorite losing.
Bolt	A sudden veer off a straight course.
Bolt	To veer suddenly out of control.
Bolted In	Won with complete authority.
Bolter	A big longshot.
Bomber	A reference to a long shot winner. A winner at high odds.
Book	The group of mares bred to a stallion in a particular year. 2) A jockey's commitments as handled by his agent.
Bounce	An unusually poor performance following an unusually good one.
Bowed tendon	Severe strain of the superficial flexor tendon between the knee and ankle, so named because of the bowed appearance resulting from swelling.
Box Seat	To sit right behind the front runners, in a perfect position.
Boxed / Boxed in	Surrounded by horses with no where to go. Lacked running room during the race.
Boxed Bet	When you box a bet, you're betting all the possible combinations. For instance, let's say you bet a boxed exacta with the 2 and 4 horse. You'd be betting two combinations – 2,4 and 4,2.
Break	Leaving the gate to start the race.
Break	Start of a horse race.
Break Maiden	Horse or rifer winning for the first time.
Break maiden	Winning for the first time.
Breakage	The money the track retains after the payoffs are rounded off to a nickel / dime on the dollar. An extra little fee for the track.

Breakdown	A horse that suffers a serious injury is said to break down.
Breakdown	When a horse becomes lame or injured.
Breather	Restraining an animal for a short distance in a race to conserve or renew their strength.
Breeder	Owner of a pregnant mare at the time she delivers the foal (baby horse of either sex).
Breeders' Cup	Multi-race event held at the end of the year in America to determine the champion horses by divisions. The finale is the featured Breeders Cup Classic which often determines the horse of the year. Millions of dollars are up for grabs in these Breeders Cup races.
Breeze	A workout at moderate speed.
Breeze	Working a horse at a moderated speed.
Bridge jumper	Someone who wagers a large sum, usually to show, on a short-priced favorite; so called because of the immediate impulse that follows the loss of such a wager.
Bridge Jumper	Something you don't want to be. This term refers to a person that bets a large amount of money on a horse. If they lose, they might jump off of a bridge. Don't be this person.
Broke In Air	Came out of the starting gate with his front legs up high and off balance. Lunged up high at the break.
Broke Poorly	Was away slowly from the starting gate. Did not break with the field.
Bucked shins	Inflammation to the area covering the front of the cannon bone; common among young horses in training.
Bug	Apprentice rider or allowance.
Bug boy	An apprentice jockey. A new jockey with little experience riding in races.
Bull Ring	A small racetrack, generally under a mile long.
Bullet Workout	The fastest workout of the morning at a particular distance.
Bullring	A small racetrack with tight turns.
Bute	Short for phenylbutazone, an anti-inflammatory medication.
Buzzer	A handheld device similar to a cattle prod that can be hidden inside a jockeys whip or equipment. Basically a way for the jockey to try and cheat by jolting his mount.
Calks, or mud calks	Cleat-like projections on the rear shoes, often used to prevent slipping on a muddy surface. Also called stickers.
Caller	The person who calls the running positions of each horse during a race.
Chalk	The betting favorite.
Check	To slow a horse momentarily to avoid traffic or collision.
Checked	An animal who is pulled up by his jockey for a moment because he is cut off or in tight quarters.
Chefs-de-race	Prepotent sires that have been especially influential.
Chefs-de-race	The chefs are classified as brilliant, intermediate, classic, solid and professional, according to whether their influence is predominantly speed or stamina.
Chestnut	1) A horse color that can vary from red-yellow to deep red. 2) One of the light-colored, irregular growths on the inside of a horse's legs; also called night eyes.

Chute	The extension of the backstretch or homestretch where seven-furlong or 10-furlong races often begin at most tracks; also used in quarter-horse racing.
Cigar	In the Massachusetts Handicap, Cigar carried 130 pounds; but in the Woodward Stakes, which was run under weight-for-age conditions, he carried 126 pounds.
Circuit	A geographical grouping of tracks whose race meetings are coordinated to run in succession.
Claim box	The box in which claim certificates are deposited.
Claiming race	A race in which the horses are literally for sale. Any claims must be made before the race, and the new owner assumes possession following the race.
Class	Class is the quality of competition that the horse competes in. A horse that is said to be "the Class" or "Classy" will be the one that has raced against the best competition previously. A graded stakes winner fits the bill as "a Classy individual. (Back Class
Classic	A race of traditional importance.
Classic	Used to refer to a few traditionally significant races, such as the Kentucky Derby. In America, the classic distance is 1 & 1/4 miles; in Europe it is 1 & 1/2 miles.
Clerk of Scales	The official who oversees the riders' "weighing out" of the jockeys' room for a race and afterward their "weighing in" to assure the horses carry the proper weight.
Clerk of Scales	The official who weighs riders before & after each race.
Climbing	Most often happens with young or inexperienced racehorses. During a race the horse holds its head high and legs high as well, compromising its stride. Normally caused by dirt kicked in its face by other runners. Most horses will adjust to this rapidly and in future races will no longer be affected.
Clocker	A person who times workouts and races.
Clocker	The person who times workouts & races.
Clocker	This is someone who goes to the track and times the workouts and races of one or more horses.
Closer	A horse that does its best running in the closing stages of a race.
Closer	An animal who runs best in the latter part of the race.
Closer	You've got to watch for these. A closer is a horse that will stay back until the end and charge forward past other horses that are losing energy. It's important to know this about a horse when you're handicapping.
Clubhouse turn	The turn after the finish line.
Clubhouse Turn	Usually the turn closest to the clubhouse.
Colic	Abdominal pain, often caused by a twist or obstruction in the intestine; the leading cause of death in horses.
Colors	Racing silks worn in the color of the horse's owner.
Colors	Racing silks.
Colt	A horse that's less than five years old. A colt is a male.
Colt	A male horse under 5 years.
Colt	An ungelded male horse 4 years old or younger.
Company	Class of horses on the field in a race.
Condition Book	Issued by the racing secretary outlining the conditions of the races to be run.

Condition book	The book that sets forth the possible races with their conditions for which horses can be entered.
Condition Race	A race which with conditions which limit the race to a certain class of horse.
Conformation	A horse's physical makeup.
Consolation double	A daily double payoff for the winner of the first race with a late scratch in the second.
Contract Rider	A jockey who is under contract to a specific stable.
Cool out	Return to normal body temperature after a workout or race.
Cooling Out	Walking a horse to return them to a normal temperature after a race or workout.
Coupled	Two horses are coupled when they run as an entry, or single betting interest.
Course	Specific section of track used for racing. Most racecourses have more than one "course" proper. For example a dirt course and a turf course. Santa Anita has a unique, downhill turf course. Belmont Park has an inner and outer turf (known as the widener) course.
Cribber	A horse that habitually grips objects with its teeth and sucks air into its stomach.
Crop	1) A group of horses born in the same year. 2) Number of foals by a particular stallion in a given year.
Cup	A distance race that is a mile and a half or longer.
Cup Horse	An animal qualified to run in distance races.
Cuppy	Track condition characterized by a loose surface. Also an overused excuse by many trainers of why their horse ran poorly.
Cuppy Track	A track surface which breaks away under an animal's hoof.
Cushion	Surface or layer of the track footing.
Cushion	The top layer of the racing surface.
Daily Double	You play the Daily Double by selecting the winner of two consecutive races. This is usually the first and second race of the day, but it can be any two races in a row.
Daily Racing Form	Daily publication that includes past performances and charts.
Dam	The female parent.
Dark day	A day of no racing.
Dark Horse	A "dark horse" is a term used to reference a horse that may have a chance to win the race, yet is flying slightly under the radar of most prognosticators.
Dead heat	A tie.
Dead Heat	When two or more horses cross the wire (finish the race) at the same time. In a dead heat, it's probably impossible to tell the winner initially, so you go to the photo finish.
Dead Money	A horse that looks hopeless with no chance of winning the race.
Dead Track	A racing surface that is lacking in resiliency.
Dead-Heat	Two or more horses finishing in an exact tie.
Declared	In the US – a horse withdrawn prior to scratch time. In Europe – A horse confirmed to start in a race.
Degenerate Horseplayer / Gambler	A bettor that can't stop no matter what. A born loser.
Derby	A significant stakes race for 3-year-olds may be called such, as in the Lone Star Derby.
Derby	A stakes race for 3 year old animals.
Diploma	Winning for the first time.

Disqualification	A change in the order of finish, by the stewards' ruling and often following an objection or inquiry, because of a rules infraction.
Disqualification	Change in the finishing order by officials due to an infraction of race rules.
Distaff	Female; e.g. the Breeders' Cup Distaff is for fillies and mares.
Distaff Race	A race for fillies and/or mares.
Distanced	Finishing a large distance behind the winner.
Distanced	So badly beaten as to lose contact with the field.
DNF	Stands for did not finish the race. Pulled up, eased or broke down.
Dogs	Cones or wooden barriers used to prevent horses from working or galloping close to the inner rail, usually used following heavy rains.
Dosage Index	In the dosage system, the ratio of speed to stamina in a horse's pedigree. A low number suggests an inclination toward stamina.
Dosage System	Pedigree analysis based on the presence of chefs-de-race in the first four generations; popularized in recent years by Steven Roman.
DQ	Disqualified
Driving	Strong urging by the rider.
Drop (Class Drop, Dropping in Class)	Moving down in class, from a higher racing class against better horses, to a lower class.
Dropped	Foaled.
Dwelt	Late in breaking from the gate.
Dwelt	Remained in the starting gate long after the jockey, starter and prudence suggested leaving.
Early foot	Speed, especially away from the starting gate.
Eased	An animal that is being held back by the jockey to prevent injury.
Eased	Having surrendered, the horse is slowed during a race.
Easily	An animal who runs & wins without being urged by the rider.
Eclipse Awards	Named for the great undefeated champion of the 18th century and determined by a vote of the National Turf Writers Association, The Daily Racing Form and the Thoroughbred Racing Associations, these are the sport's highest honors. They're given in various divisions and represent championships.
Eighth pole	The marker or pole indicating an eighth of a mile to the wire. Poles are set every sixteenth of a mile around the track.
Eighth	A furlong – 220 yards – 660 feet.
EIPH	Exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhaging.
Endoscope	An instrument used to examine the upper airway and stomach.
Entrapped epiglottis	An abnormal throat condition in which a thin membrane moves to cover the epiglottis and obstruct breathing.
Entry	Two or more horses, usually with common ownership, that are coupled as a betting interest.
Entry fee	Money paid to enter a horse in a stakes race.
EPM	Equine protozoal myeloencephalitis, a baffling neurological disease.
Equibase	The company formed by the partnership of The Jockey Club and the TRA to maintain racing records.
Evenly	An animal who neither gains or loses position or distance during a race.
Exacta	A bet requiring you to select the first 2 finishers of a race in the exact order. Also known as a perfecta.
Exacta	When you bet on an Exacta, you're betting on the horses that will Win and Place in a race – finish first and second. As the name implies, you're betting on the exact finish. So if you wager the 2 and

	4 horse, the finish must be 2,4. If the 4 wins and the 2 places, you lose. Another way to bet this is a Quinella – order doesn't matter.
Excused	An animal that is withdrawn from a race with consent of the stewards – often for medical reasons.
Exercise rider	A person who rides horses in workouts and gallops.
Exercise Rider	A rider who exercises race horses in the mornings.
Exotic	Any multi-horse or multi-race wager.
Experimental Free Handicap	A rating of the year's top juveniles by weight assignments.
Extended	An animal who is pushed to run at top speed.
Extra Weight	More weight than the conditions of the race require.
False favorite	An unworthy betting favorite.
Faltered	An animal who ran well early in the race and falls back during the later stages.
Fast	Official track condition when the surface is free of excessive moisture and at its best. Other track conditions are good, slow, heavy, muddy, sloppy and wet fast, describing various levels of moisture in the surface and its liveliness.
Fast Track	Optimum footing, dry & even.
Fees	Money paid to to the rider or cost of entering or starting a horse in a stakes race.
Fence	Also called outside rail, the fence is the barrier between the stands and the racing surface.
Field	Horses in a race.
Field	The horses in a race. For instance, a 10-horse field means that there are 10 horses running in the race. This isn't to be confused with a "Field Horse."
Field Horse	A horse that part of a team of horses running in a race as a single betting unit. A common version of this is the 1 and 1A horse combo.
Filly	A female horse that's four years old or younger is known as a filly.
Filly	Female horse 4 years old or younger.
Filly	Female horse aged 4 years or under.
Firm	Official condition of the turf course when it is free of excessive moisture. The turf might also be soft or yielding.
Firm Track	This is a track condition that's used for turf races. The dirt track equivalent is fast.
First Time Starter	A horse that is racing for the first time in his/her life. Almost always running in a maiden race.
First Turn	The first turn on the track after the starting point.
Flat Race	A level race, one without hurdles.
Float	Track equipment that drags excess water off of the track surface.
Foal	A horse in its first year of life.
Founder	Common term for laminitis, which is the severe inflammation of the sensitive laminae of the foot.
Founding sires	Most thoroughbreds are descended from the founding sires - the Darley Arabian, Byerly Turk and Godolphin Barb.
Four Furlongs	Half a mile – 880 yards – 2,640 feet.
Fractional times	Internal fractions of a race.
Fresh	A rested animal.
Frog	The pliable supporting structure on the bottom of the foot.
Front Runner	An animal who generally leads the field for as long as they can when they race.



Fronts / Front Wraps	Means the horse is wearing bandages on his front legs. Often a sign that he may have some swelling or weakness in the legs.
Furlong	It's a measure of distance in horse racing. For instance, a race might be 6 furlongs, 7 furlongs, or whatever. A furlong is 220 yards. Either furlongs make up one mile. It's vital to understand distance when handicapping horses. Some do better at short distances and some do better when running long races.
Furlong	One-eighth of a mile – 220 yards – 660 feet.
Furlong	The increments races are measured by in North America (equal to an eighth of a mile.)
Furosemide	Commonly known by the trade name Lasix or Salix, a diuretic used to discourage bleeding in horses.
Futurity	A stakes race for juveniles that requires continuous payments by their owners to maintain the horse 's eligibility.
Game Horse	A horse that is extremely tough to get past, a runner that tries very hard.
Gap	An opening in the rail.
Garrison finish	Coming from off the pace and winning in the final jumps, so named for the jockey Snapper Garrison.
Gate	Equipment used to start races.
Gelding	A castrated male horse.
Gelding	Ouch. A Gelding is a male horse that's been castrated.
Get	Progeny of a stallion.
Going away	To win with an increasing margin.
Good Bottom	Track that is sloppy or wet on the surface but firm underneath.
Good doer	An eager eater.
Good Track	A moderately good track surface – between fast & slow.
Grab a quarter	An injury to the back of the hoof resulting from a horse stepping on itself.
Graded line	A handicapper's rating by odds of all the horses in a race based on his opinion of their relative chances of winning.
Graded stakes races	Selected major stakes that are classified by the North American Graded Stakes Committee as Grade I, II or III according to the quality of competition. Grade 1 being the most prestigious. The Kentucky Derby is a Grade 1 race, so is the Breeders Cup Classic.
Gray	A horse with white hairs in his coat.
Green	A term for a young and inexperienced horse, one still learning the ropes of racing.
Groom	A person who feeds and cares for the horses at the stable. Grooms are incredibly important to the health and well-being of race horses. Most grooms travel with their horses, often developing a special bond with them.
Group Race	European equivalent to North American graded races.
H next to a horse's name	This tells you that the animal is considered a male horse. A young male horse is considered a colt, like the 3 year old males that run in the Kentucky Derby. A castrated male horse is always referred to as a gelding, regardless of age. A young female horse is called a filly, while an older female horse is referred to as a mare.
Half	Half of a mile – 4 furlongs – 880 yards – 2,640 feet
Half-brothers or half-sisters	Horses out of the same dam, but by different stallions.
Half-mile pole	The marker or pole (red and white) that indicates a half-mile remains to the wire.

Hand	Unit of measurement equaling four inches and used for expressing a horse's height at the withers. A term used to measure the height of a horse, each hand being four inches. For instance the great Zenyatta stands 17.2 hands, a very tall horse.
Hand Ride	Urging a horse using the hands instead of a whip.
Hand ride	Without use of the whip.
Handicap	To analyze the past performances and rate the horses in a race.
Handicap	A race with conditions that a handicapper assigns weights to be carried by each animal on the basis of past performance.
Handicapper	Technically, if you bet on a horse race and thought about it first, you're a handicapping. In a more specific sense, a horse racing handicapper is one that analyzes data and selects horses. A handicapper might be a regular horse racing bettor, like you, or someone who sells his or her info to others – or both. Handicappers, as you might expect, have all sorts of handicapping methods and come in a variety of skill levels and specialties.
Handicapper	The person who assigns the weights for handicap races based on past performances.
Handily	Describing a workout of some effort.
Handily	Racing or working with moderate effort – faster than breezing.
Handle	The total amount of money wagered.
Hang	To fail to sustain a move or an advance.
Hardboot	A horseman of the old school.
Head	A margin between horses in a race.
Head of the Stretch	The start of the straight away leading to the finish line.
Head of the stretch	Top of the homestretch.
Heavy	Track condition slower than a muddy track.
Highweight	The horse assigned the most weight in a handicap.
Highweight Handicap	A race in which the top assigned weight exceeds 40 pounds.
Home and Hosed	I have heard this one from several race callers, usually in Australia. Basically the horse is a sure winner passing the post and ready to go back to the barn for a well deserved bath.
Horse	A male or female horse over 5 years of age.
Horse	An ungelded male 5 years old or older.
Horse	Yes, I hope you know what a horse is. But technically, a horse in horse racing is considered to be a male horse that's five years old or older and non-gelded.
Hot walker	Person who walks horses to cool them out after exercise or racing.
Hotwalker	The person who walks them to cool them off after racing or workouts.
Hung	An animal that is getting tired but holding their racing position.
Hurdle Race	A race that is held over obstacles.
Ice cold (exacta, trifecta)	Bet it one way only, such as a 6-4 exacta and hit.
Impost	Assigned weight.
Impost	Weight an animal is assigned to carry.
In for a tag / Running for a tag	Has a price assigned to him/her. Basically means the horse is running in a claiming event.
In Form	A horse is said to be "in form" when he/she is running at their peak level. "In form" is a way of saying that horse has been running well lately. Out of form
In Hand	Running under moderate control from the rider, not at best pace.

In hand	Under restraint. Had a lot left in the tank and could have won by more if desired.
In the money	Finishing first, second or third. A Win, Place or Show finish.
In The Money	Finishing st, 2nd or 3rd
In the Money	Such a beautiful phrase. When your horse is in the money, he came in first, second or third (Win, Place, Show). You want this.
Infield	Area enclosed by the racing oval.
Infield	The area inside the inner rail of the track.
Infield Racing	Turf racing.
Inquiry	A review of the race by the stewards for purposes of discovering possible infractions.
Inquiry	This means that the race is being reviewed for a possible infraction. When you see this, hold your ticket. It's possible that one or more horses will be disqualified, which will change the finish and payouts.
Inquiry	When officials review the race to check for an infraction of race rules.
Jail	Refers to the requirements for a horse that has been claimed. Commonly, a claimed horse must run for at least a 25 percent higher claiming price for a month following the claim.
Jockey Club	Formed in 1894 and based in New York, the organization that serves as the registry for thoroughbreds in North America.
Jockey Fee	The amount of money paid to the rider.
Jumped a shadow	Horses will sometimes try and jump objects on the racetrack including shadows, puddles, etc. To the horse it looks like something in his / her path. Trainers will sometimes apply a shadow roll to prevent this from happening.
Jumper	A horse that runs steeplechase or hurdle races.
Juvenile	A 2-year-old.
Juvenile	A two year old horse.
Key horse	A horse used in combinations with two or more other horses in exotic wagers.
Lame	Describes an inability to walk, gallop or run normally because of pain or injury.
Laminitis	An inflammation of the sensitive laminae of the foot, the area of the hoof that contains nerves and blood vessels.
Lasix	Lasix or Furosemide is a diuretic used to treat bleeding in horses. It can be given to horses that suffer exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhaging (basically that means he's a bleeder). Such horses might slow abruptly when their breathing is inhibited.
Late double	Same as a Daily Double but for later races .
Lead pad	A leather pad with pockets for holding lead; positioned beneath the saddle, it's used to make up the difference between the actual weight and the assigned weight.
Lead pad	The weights carried by a horse when the rider doesn't meet the weight requirements for a race.
Lead pony	Pony that leads the parade to the post.
Lead Pony	The horse or pony used to lead the race horses from the paddock to the starting gate.
Lead, right or left	The front leg that is left to hit the ground. Ideally, a horse will race on its left lead in the turns and its right on the straights.
Leaky Roof Circuit	Minor race tracks.

Leger Stakes	a Group 1 flat horse race in Great Britain open to three-year-old thoroughbred colts and fillies. It is run at Doncaster over a distance of 1 mile, 6 furlongs and 115 yards (2,921 metres), and it is scheduled to take place each year in September.
Length	Measurement used to denote distances between horses; approximately equal to the length of a horse.
Length	The length of a horse from nose to tail (approx. 8 feet) which can be a measurement between horse in a race.
Length	This is the length of the horse from nose to tail. It tends to average 9 feet. However, horses vary in length and this term can be slightly deceptive.
Light up the toteboard	A saying referring to a longshot payout looming. As in saying "light it up" meaning i'm cashing big time.
Line	The morning line.
Listed stakes	An ungraded stakes race.
Lock	Slang for a horse that is sure to win.
Lock	The mythical cinch. A horse that can't lose (unfortunately doesn't exist, kinda like the Easter Bunny)
Lock	This is a slang term used to describe a "sure thing." For instance, if I tell you that the 5 horse is a lock this race, I'm telling you that the 5 horse is going to win. There are no "locks" in horse racing.
Long shot	A horse with high odds, one given little chance of winning by the public. Yet these often surprise.
Looks "A Treat"	A prize specimen of a horse. Looks outstanding.
Lug In or Lug Out	The bearing in or out, usually from fatigue or injury.
Lug in or out	Same as bearing in or out.
Maiden	A horse that has never won a race. A horse with no wins.
Maiden	An animal or rider who has not won a race.
Maiden	These horses have never won a race. When a horse wins its first race, its maiden is broken.
Maiden Race	A race for maiden horses or riders.
Maiden Race	A race strictly for horses that have never won before, usually features young horses.
Maiden Race	This is a race where the field is comprised solely of maidens. The good news is that one of the horses will be breaking their maiden.
Make A Run	When a horse charges ahead during a race.
Mare	Female horse 5 years of age or older.
Mare	Female horse 5 years old or older.
Mare	This is a female horse that's five years old or older typically, but it can also be a female horse of any age if the horse has been bred.
Match Race	A race with just two runners.
Meters	Races outside North America are often listed in Meters. The equivalent ratings for distances are 1000m (5 furlongs) 1200m (6 furlongs) 1400m (7 furlongs) 1600m (1 mile).
Milkshake	An illegal mixture fed to a horse to make him run faster.
Minus pool	This results when betting is so heavy on a single horse that after taxes and commissions, there's not enough remaining to pay the bettors the mandated minimum. The racetrack is forced to make up the difference.
Missed the break	broke slowly from the starting gate, didn't break with the rest of the horses.
Money Rider	A rider who does well in rich races.

Monster	Term for a horse that looks head and shoulders above the competition, a dominant horse. As in "that horse is a monster"
Morning Glory	A horse that performs well in morning workouts but performs poorly in races.
Morning glory	A horse that trains sharply, with eye-catching times in his workouts, but fails to perform well in races.
Morning Line	Ah, the good ol' morning line. Before the horses even get to the starting gate, a linemaker establishes the odds and posts them for the public. The line is based on many factors – talent, past performance and public perception tend to be major ones.
Morning line	The starting odds, as set by the track handicapper. It's the oddsmaker's projection of what the final odds will be. Remember the odds are ultimately set by the public, the morning line is more of an estimate of what the final odds will be.
Mount	A horse that a jockey is booked to ride.
MTO (entry)	MTO stands for main track only. this means that the horse can draw in only if the race comes off the turf in favor of the main track.
Mudder	A horse that is particularly fond of running on a sloppy or muddy track is known as a mudder.
Mudder	A horse who excels in races on muddy tracks.
Muddy Track	A track with deep footing due to rain or water.
Mudlark	One step up from a mudder.
Mutuel field	Horses grouped together as one betting interest.
Nag	A slang for a racehorse, especially a bad one.
Neck	A unit of measurement about the length of a horses neck, also a quarter of a length. Can be used to measure distance between horses in a race.
Neck	Measurement for beaten horses , approximately equal to a horse 's neck.
Nod	Lowering the head so that it's fully extended, as in to win by a nod.
Nom de Course	Name of a stable or owner or group of owners for racing purposes.Nose
Nose	The smallest measurement a horse can win by.
Oaks	A traditional stakes event for 3 year old fillies.
Oaks	Some significant stakes races for 3-year-old fillies are so designated, such as the Kentucky Oaks.
Objection	A claim of foul after the running of a race, usually made by a jockey but sometimes by a trainer. Most objections that do not involve a judges inquiry first have little chance of success.
Objection	A foul claim made by a rider or judge. When made by an official it's called an inquiry.
Odds-on	Odds less than even money.
Off the board	Not finishing among the top three.
Off The Turf	Means the race has been taken off the turf and will now be run on the main track, usually because it is raining.
Off track	A racing surface that is not officially fast.
Off Track	A track with a wet surface.
Official	A sign displayed to confirm race results. Also a track officer.
Official	The race isn't officially in the books until the official sign goes up. Once you see this, it's official – hence the term.
Off-track betting (OTB)	Legalized betting at locations other than the racetrack.
On The Bit	A horse that is eager to run.

On the bit, or in the bridle	Eager to run.
On The Board	Finishing among the first four places in a race.
On the board	Finishing among the top three.
On the muscle	Fit and eager.
On the nose	Betting to win.
Open knee	An immature knee.
Open race	A race that does not restrict eligibility.
Out of the money finish	Finishing worse than third.
Outrider	Rider who accompanies the horses to the gate and catches loose horses.
Outside Rail	Also called the fence.
Overland	When a horse races wide on the outside of the other horses.
Overlay	An overlay situation exists when the potential return exceeds the risk. A horse 's going off at higher odds than it should, based on its ability and chances. What an experienced bettor looks for.
Overlay	When a horse is commanding a higher price that it should – based on past performances – it's an overlay. The opposite is an underlay.
Overnight	A sheet listing the entries for an upcoming race day.
Overnight race	A race other than a stakes race.
Overweight	Additional weight carried by a horse because the jockey cannot make the assigned weight.
Overweight	Extra weight carried by an animal when the rider cannot meet the required weight for that race.
Pace	The relative speed of the leaders of the field during various stages during the race.
Pacer	A fast gait used in harness racing in which the legs on the same side of the horse move together.
Pacesetter	The early leader of a race, the horse that sets the pace.
Paddock	The enclosure where horses are saddled before a race.
Paddock	The area of the track where horses are prepared & kept prior to post time.
Paddock judge	Racing official in charge of the paddock area.
Paddock Judge	The official that oversees the preparation routines in the paddock.
Parimutuel	Form of wagering at the racetrack.
Parlay	A wager whereby the payoff is parlayed, or bet again, on another horse in a subsequent race, as in a three-horse parlay.
Parlay	Taking the winnings from one wager and pressing them to another. For instance, you bet the first race and won \$10. In the second race, you chose to parlay your wager by betting all \$10 on another wager.
Past Performance	This is a detailed record that contains a lot of information on a horse. This information includes the horse's past races, past workouts, trainer and owner information and other valuable data. This is a key piece of information that horse racing handicappers use when they handicap. You should never wager on a horse without at least taking a quick look at this information.
Past performances	A horse's record which includes how he/she finished in each prior race with the particulars included. Most often supplied by Equibase, Daily Racing Form or BRISnet. Necessary information to try and predict the outcome of horse races.
Pastern	Area between the fetlock (ankle) and the hoof (foot).
Path	You may have heard it said "he raced in the 2 path" or "he raced in the 4 path, well off the rail" around the track. A path is

	approximately equal to a horses width, so a 2 path trip would leave 1 horse width between him and the rail. Sometimes jockeys find a winning path around the track, especially on a sloppy track. Sometimes a wider path around the track may be playing better than the inside, however this is rare.
Patrol cameras	Cameras that view and film the race from various vantage points.
Patrol judges	Officials who observe the race from various vantage points.
Patrol Judges	The officials who watch the progress from various spots around the track.
Pattern races	In Europe, such stakes are called Group races. Group 1, 2, 3 , Group 1 being the most prestigious.
Phenylbutazone	See bute.
Photo finish	A finish that is so close that a photograph is necessary to determine the precise outcome.
Photo Finish	A racing result that is so close that a photo must be used to determine the winner.
Photo Finish	When a race ends in a dead heat, it's tough to know which horse won. Therefore, we go to the photo finish. Just like replay in other sports, a photo that was captured at the wire (finish line) is viewed to see which horse won.
Pick 6	Wager in which you must select the winning horses of 6 consecutive races. Offers some of the largest payouts in racing.
Pick Three, Six, or More	Pick Three is a type of bet where you pick the winners of three consecutive races. Racetracks offer various pick wagers, such as Pick Four and Pick Six. Some racetracks do pick wagers on the first and last sets of races for each race day, but others using rolling pick wagers (any races). Think of these as parlay tickets in other sports.
Pinched Back	A horse that is blocked in by other animals and forced back in the field.
Pinhooker	A person who buys young horses for the purpose of reselling them at a profit. Most often buying yearlings to be resold as 2yo or 3yo's.
Place	Second place in a race.
Place	When a horse places, the horse finished second in a race. Also, the horse is considered to be in the money with this finish.
Place Bet	A bet in which your horse has to run first or second to collect. A horse that finishes 2nd in a race is said to "Place".
Place Bet	Making a wager on a horse to finish second. You'll win if the horse either wins the race or comes in second. You lose if that horse finishes worse than second.
Placing judges	Judges who determine the official order of finish.
Placing Judges	The officials who determine the finishing order of the field.
Plater	A claiming horse. A cheap horse.
Plodder	A horse that keeps the same pace all the way. A slow, methodical gainer.
Pocket	A horse that is boxed in and running with horses next to & in front of them.
Points of call	Places during a race where the running positions are indicated in a chart.
Pole	Markers set at measured distances around the track which mark the distance from the finish line.
Pony	Any horse that leads the post parade or accompanies the racehorses to the gate.

Pool	Sum of the money wagered in a particular way; e.g., the place pool is all the money bet to place.
Post	The position a horse holds in the starting gate.
Post parade	The horses' procession in front of the grandstand before a race.
Post Parade	The walk from the paddock to the starting gate.
Post position	A horse's stall in the starting gate; e.g., a horse might break from post position 5.
Post Time	The designated time for a race to start.
Post Time	This is when the race starts. All wagers must be placed by post time or you miss out on the race. This is a great reason to wager online. You'll never get stuck in line and miss placing a winning wager – it happens everyday at brick and mortar racebooks.
Post time	Time for a race to start.
Prep	A workout or race run for the purpose of preparing for a future engagement.
Prop	An animal who refuses to break from the gate with the field.
Public trainer	A trainer who works for several different owners; e.g., D. Wayne Lukas.
Public Trainer	A trainer who works with horses from a number of stables.
Pull up	To slow and then stop a horse after a race or workout.
Punter	A horseplayer, a gambler. More commonly used in Europe than United States.
Purse	Not to be confused with something you buy a woman, a purse in horse racing is the amount of money that's in the pool to be distributed to owners. The bigger and better the race, the larger the purse.
Purse	Prize money offered in a race.
Purse	Prize money which is not contributed by the owners.
Pushbutton	If a jockey says that his horse is pushbutton, that means he runs like a sports car. Ready to go fast in a moments notice.
Quarter	A quarter of a mile – 440 yards – ,320 feet.
Quarter crack	A crack to the side of the hoof; that is, between the toe and heel.
Quarter horse	A specific breed, used for work, recreation, cutting and racing; they race only short distances, such as a quarter-mile.
Quarter pole	The pole that indicates a quarter-mile left to the finish.
Quinella	Earlier we talked about the Exacta. This is the same principle, but order doesn't matter. You're wagering on the first two horses to cross the wire in a race. They can be in any order. For instance, if you bet a 2,4 Quinella, you win if the race finishes 2,4 or 4,2. Since it's easier, the Quinella pays less than an Exacta.
Rabbit	A horse that doesn't have a chance of winning, but entered in a race to tire out the front-runners and soften competition for another entry.
Rabbit	A speedy horse whose purpose is to set a fast pace for the benefit of a stretch-running stablemate.
Racing secretary	Official who writes the condition book and assigns weights for handicaps.
Racing Secretary	The official who writes the conditions of each race & assigns handicap weights.
Racing Syndicate	Similar to a betting syndicate, yet these people pool their resources in an attempt to purchase and race winning horses.
Rail Runner	A horse who prefers to run next to the inside rail.



Rail, inner and outer	The barriers that outline the racing surface.
Railbird	A fan that likes to hang out at the track and watch the races along the rail. Thus getting a "birds-eye-view" if you will, of the action.
Rank	Intractable. Refuses to relax or settle. Is fighting the rider.
Rate	Restraining a horse early to conserve energy.
Recall	When the first starting attempt is nullified by a starting official.
Receiving barn	Barn used by horses not usually stabled at the racetrack.
Refuse	To refuse to break from the starting gate.
Refuse	When a horse won't break from the starting gate or refuses a jump during a jumping race.
Reins	Leather straps connected to the bit and used to guide and control the horse.
Reserve	At auctions, the minimum acceptable price.
Ridden Out	A horse that wins through urging without the whip.
Ridden out	Having finished under mild urging.
Riding the rail	hugging the rail to save the ground ala Calvin Borel (also known as Borail)
Roan	A horse color indicating most of the coat is a mixture of red and white, or brown and white, hairs.
Rogue	An ill-tempered horse.
Romp	Running or winning easily.
Route	A long race, as opposed to a sprint.
Route	A race that is a mile or longer.
Route	This is a controversial term of sorts. Typically, a route is a race that's at least one mile in length. However, many horse racing pros like to call races routes when the race has more than one turn.
Router	A horse who does well running distance races.
Router	If the race is a route, look for a router. A router is a horse than runs distance races well.
Ruled Off	A permanent suspension from the track due to an infraction of the rules.
Ruled off	Suspended.
Runhorse.com	Popular horse racing network
Savage	To attempt to bite another horse.
Saved all the ground	rode right in along the rail the whole way around, therefore preserving his horse for the stretch drive.
Scale of Weights	Fixed weights to be carried by horses who race based on age, distance, sex & time of year.
Scale of weights	Weight assignments fixed according to age, sex and distance.
School	To familiarize a horse with the starting gate or paddock.
Schooling	Getting a horse accustomed to starting from a gate and other racing practices.
Scraped the paint or scraping the paint	pushed up so close along the rail that he likely took some paint off with him. Squeezed through a narrow opening on the rail, daring ride.
Scratch	A horse that is taken out of a race.
Scratch	If your horse gets scratched, it is no longer in the race. It's commonplace for horses to get scratched from a race for one reason or another.
Scratch	To be declared or removed from the starting field, usually by the trainer.
Second dam	The maternal grandmother.

Selling Race	A claiming race.
Sesamoids	Two small bones (medial and lateral) located above the fetlock.
Set	A group of horses working or galloping together.
Set down	Suspended.
Sex Allowance	Fillies & mares are allowed to carry 3-5 pounds less when racing males, based on their age & the time of year.
Sex allowance	The weight allowance fillies and mares receive when running against males.
Shadow Roll	A piece of equipment, usually made of sheepskin or synthetic material that attaches to the noseband of the bridle. If you have a horse that tries to jump shadows, you'll put a shadow roll on it so that it can't see what's underneath them... they can't see the shadows so they won't try to jump them.
Shake	When more than one claim is entered on the same horse in a claiming race. The way to determine who the new owner will be is a shake. A pill bottle is shook with a number representing each possible new owner, the winner of the shake is the horse's new owner (as in "he won a 3 way shake for that horse").
Shedrow	The dirt path that encircles a barn.
Shoe board	A placard that lists the types of shoes worn by horses in the upcoming race.
Short	A horse who needs more work or races to reach winning form.
Short	Lacking necessary conditioning.
Show	Third place.
Show	This is one of the safer wagers in horse racing, but it pays the least. When a horse finishes in third place, the horse Shows. So, if you wager on a horse to Show, you win if that horse finishes first, second or third – also known as in the money.
Show Bet	A bet in which your horse has to finish 1st, 2nd or 3rd to collect. One of these easiest bets to win and usually offering one of the lowest returns. A horse that finishes 3rd in a race is said to "Show".
Show Bet	Bet on a horse to Show and you win as long as that horse finishes in the money (first, second or third). It's a safe bet, but you won't get rewarded much. Usually you only want to bet a horse to Show when the odds are high.
Shut off	Blocked in traffic or by another horse.
Shut Off	When a horse & rider are unable to improve their position in a race because they are pocketed.
Silks	The racing silks worn by jockeys to designate the horses owner.
Silky Sullivan finish	A late charge from far back, named for a popular horse of the late 1950s who relied on such a strategy.
Simulcast	A televised race from another track.
Sire	Male parent.
Sitting Chilly	A rider which stays still or does not use his whip while waiting to make his move in the homestretch is said to be "sitting chilly." Staying motionless, not needing to move to get run from a jockeys mount.
Sitting on a bomb	If a jockey is sitting on "a bomb" at say the quarter pole, then his horse is getting ready to explode. Ready to explode with a big run.
Sloppy	Track footing that is wet on the surface but firm underneath.
Slow	Track footing that is between good & heavy.
Snug	Mild restraint of a hors by it's rider.

Socks	White markings from the fetlock to the hoof.
Sophomore	A 3 year old horse.
Sophomore	A 3-year-old.
Speed Duel	Usually 2 or more horses that get locked into a fast pace during a race, both of them fighting each other to keep the lead. This is almost always a negative scenario for your horse, however when a horse gets locked in a speed duel and still runs well. They are showing that they are very game.
Spit box	The barn where post-race urine, saliva or blood samples are taken.
Spit the bit	A horse suddenly surrendering in a race.
Splint	1) Either of two small bones on the side of the cannon bone.
Split race	A race that is so oversubscribed that it is split into two races.
Splits	Fractional times.
Sponging	A barbaric way of trying to cheat by making a horse swallow a sponge. This in effect keeps him from breathing correctly and therefore running a decent race.
Sprint	A race of a mile or less.
Stake	A race in which the owner must pay a fee to run their horse.
Stakes	A race for which there is often a nomination and entry fee and for which horses must be nominated (or invited) in advance, as opposed to an overnight race .
Stakes Horse	An animal who is eligible to compete in stakes races.
Stakes-Placed	An animal who places st, 2nd or 3rd in a stakes race.
Stallion	A male horse used for breeding.
Starter	The official responsible for the horses at the starting gate and for a fair start of the race.
Starter Race	An allowance or handicap race that is restricted to animals who have started for less than a specific claiming price.
Starter race	An allowance or handicap restricted to horses that have in the past started for a designated claiming price.
Starting gate	The steel, mechanical gate that has stalls from which the horses emerge at the start of a race.
State-bred race	A race restricted to horses bred - that is, foaled - in particular state.
Stayer	A horse with stamina. A horse that loves to run all day and excels in long distance races.
Stayer	A robust horse who can race over long distances.
Steadied	A horse that is taken in by it's rider, often because they are in close quarters.
Steadied	Impeded.
Steeplechase	A jumping race that requires horse & rider to jump large obstacles.
Steps Up	When a horse moves up in class to run against better runners.
Stewards	Officials responsible for enforcing the rules of racing.
Stewards	The officials responsible for enforcing race rules.
Stick	A jockey's whip
Stick	A jockey's whip.
Stickers	Calks on racing shoes to provide better traction on muddy or soft tracks.
Stockings	White markings from the hock to the hoof.
Stooper	A person who picks up discarded tickets in the hopes of finding some that are cashable.

Straight	This is betting a horse to win only. Personally, I don't like making just a straight wager, but you might. If the horse wins the race, so do you.
Stretch	The straight portion of the racetrack that leads to the finish.
Stretch	The straightaway that leads to the wire; also homestretch.
Stretching Out	Term meaning that horse is going from a sprint to a distance race today.
Stretch-runner	A horse that does its most effective running in the stretch.
Stud Book	A registry and breeding record of Thoroughbreds maintained by the Jockey Club.
Subscription	A fee that is paid by the horse owners to nominate or maintain eligibility for a stakes race.
Sulky	A two wheeled cart which carries a driver and is used for harness racing.
Superfecta	This is a special wager that's offered in certain races at the track. When you make a Superfecta bet, you're picking the first four horses in a race – exact order. For instance, if you bet a 2,3,4,5 Superfecta, the horses must finish in that order. You can also box this bet to get all the possible combinations.
Suspended	A temporary punishment with a specified period of time given for an infraction of race rules.
Syndicate	Betting Syndicate
Tack	Racing equipment.
Tag	A price tag, as in a claiming price.
Taken back	Restrained for a late run.
Taken Up	A horse that is abruptly pulled up by their rider because they are in close quarters.
Taken up	A jockey having to check a horse severely causing his horse to lose momentum.
Takeout	Deductions from the mutuel pools before the money is returned to the bettors.
Takeout	For the most part, the takeout is divided among the track, the horsemen and the state.
Tattoo	Permanent identification mark tattooed on the inside of a horse's upper lip.
Tattoo	The group of numbers tattooed inside the upper lip of registered Thoroughbreds.
Teletimer	Electronic timer that provides fractional and final times for the races.
Thoroughbred	Breed developed specifically for racing.
Thoroughbred Racing Associations (TRA)	An organized association of many major racetracks.
Tight	A horse that is ready to race.
Tightener	A race or workout needed to get a horse to a desirable level of readiness and fitness.
Timber Topper	A jumper or steeplechase race horse that is jumped over timber fences.
Tongue tie	A strip of cloth used to stabilize a horse 's tongue so that the animal cannot slip it over the bit.
Topweight	The highest weight assigned or carried in a race.
Tote board	The totalizator board that displays odds and other information.

Tout	To extol the virtues, real or imagined, of a horse for purposes of urging others to bet.
Tout	This is a general term for someone who is selling information, claims to have information or just someone who is talking up a horse.
Track Bias	A track surface that favors a particular running style.
Track bias, or simply bias	A surface's favoring certain paths or running styles.
Track Record	The fastest recorded times over various distances for that specific track.
Track Record	The fastest time ever recorded at the track for a certain distance. There are individual records for each distance.
Trial	A qualifying race, usually for a futurity.
Trial	A race workout
Trifecta	A bet which requires you to select the first 3 finishers of a race in exact order.
Trifecta	When you want to swing for the fences, a Trifecta is one way to do it. To place a Trifecta, you bet on the first three finishers in a race. The order counts here. You can box a Trifecta to get all the combinations. Then, if you have the proper three horses, you win. Many horse bettors that play Trifectas will box with a fourth horse – especially on races with large fields.
Trip	A horse's race.
Trip	A horse's progress during a race with particular reference to any trouble or biased conditions.
Triple Crown	In the US – The Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes & Belmont Stakes. In England – The 2,000 Guineas, Epsom Derby & St. Leger. The Canadian Triple Crown is the Queen's Plate, Prince of Wales and Breeders' Stakes.
Triple Crown	The Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont Stakes.
Trotter	In harness racing a trotter moves with a diagonal gait.
Turf Course	A grass racing surface.
Turf course	The grass course, usually located inside the dirt track.
Turn Of Foot	A horse with a quick turn of foot can accelerate quickly and put distance between himself and other runners in the blink of an eye.
Two-minute lick	To gallop at a rate of a mile in two minutes.
Under Contract	A trainer who has signed a contract to for a specific amount of time & compensation.
Under Punishment	A horse that is being whipped or strongly urged.
Under Wraps	A horse that is strongly restrained during a workout or a race.
Under wraps	Under restraint.
Underlay	Opposite of an overlay; an over bet horse whose odds belie its ability and for which the risk exceeds the possible return.
Underlay	When a horse goes off (or will go off) at larger odds than it should—based on past performances or other handicapping methods – it's an underlay.
Untried	A horse that has not raced or been tested for speed.
Across the board	When you bet on a horse across the board, you're betting on that horse to Win, Place and Show. So, if you walk up to a betting terminal and bet \$6 across the board on a horse, you're wagering \$6 each way – \$18 total.
Unwind	Slowly pulling a horse out of intensive training.

Up in class	A horse moving from a lower class to a higher class. Horses usually move up in class after a strong effort such as a win or possibly off a claim.
Valet	A person who assists in saddling the horses, takes care of the tack and prepares the tack before each race, taking special care that a jockey and his tack meet the assigned weight.
Valet	The person who attends to the riders.
Vanned off	Horse was under some type of distress and was carted off in an ambulance, sometimes for safety measures.
Walkover	A race in which a horse literally has no competition.
Walkover	A race in which only one horse is not scratched. They are required by the rules to gallop the required distance.
Wash out	To become so nervous as to sweat profusely.
Washy	A horse that breaks out in nervous sweat prior to a race start.
Weanling	A foal that is less than a year old.
Weaving	When a horse & rider thread their way through the field during a race.
Weight-For-Age	A fixed scale of weights which must be carried by horses according to age, sex, distance and time of year.
Weight-for-age	Race condition that assigns weights based on the horses ' ages.
Win	This probably needs no explanation. When a horse comes in first and wins the race, the horse finished in the Win position.
Win Bet	Wagering that a horse will finish first in a race.
Win Bet	When you like a horse to win the race, you can bet the horse to Win. Unlike Place and Show, which have more than one way to payout, the Win bet only pays if the horse wins. When a horse wins, it finishes in the money.
Winded	Heavy, difficult breathing after a race or workout.
Winning horse	Usually the horse that crosses the line first, however a horse can be declared the winner by being placed first by the stewards. This would be in the case of the actual winner being disqualified and relegated to a lower placing by the judges. There can actually be 2 or more winners of a race as well, in the case of a dead heat finish (tie).
Wire	The finish line.
Work	To exercise a horse.
Workout, or work	An exercise at moderate to extreme speed for a predetermined distance.
Yearling	A horse that is a year old and so is in its second calendar year.
Yearling	A horse that is less than one year old.
Yielding	Condition of a turf course after it has absorbed much moisture.