



HORSE VISION - DID YOU KNOW?

Some handy facts on how horses see the world.

Do horses see colour?

It is believed that horses do not see colour however even after much research this hasn't been proven.

Can horses see much detail?

Horses have a much broader range of vision than humans do, however they see less detail than the human eye. A horse's vision is sensitive to movement which allows them to detect possible enemies, even in the dark.

Can horses see in the dark?

Horses can see better in the dark than humans but not as good as other animals. They do however, have trouble adjusting when going from light to dark areas (or vice versa). Be sure to give your horse enough time to adjust to the new lighting.

Do horses have blind spots?

Your horse has a blind spot that extends about 4 feet in front of his face, which may vary depending on the shape of his head. You shouldn't approach a horse directly from the front.

Horses cannot see the ground near their front feet, and they cannot see their own knees and chest. Horses also have a blind spot directly behind them. This is the most dangerous blind spot, should the horse become frightened and kick at you. Always be careful and alert when walking behind your horse. A horse may kick at any sudden, unexpected noise.

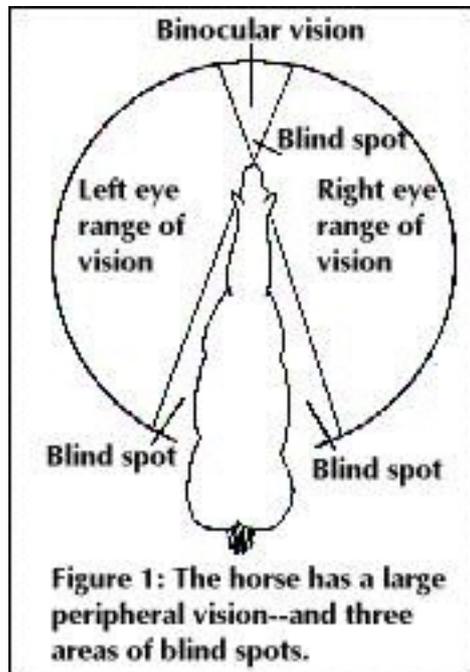
Binocular and Monocular Vision

When both eyes are focused on one object in front, the horse is using binocular vision. You will know when a horse is using binocular vision because he will usually stand alert, with both of his ears focused on an object in front of him.

Horses can see with each eye separately. This is called monocular vision, which allows the horse to watch in front of him with one eye and in back of him with the other. This is especially useful when watching for predators.

Are blue eyed horses blind?

Most horses have dark coloured eyes (usually brown). Some people believe that blue eyes are inferior, however, there is no scientific evidence that this is true. Blue eyes are the result of lack of pigment in the iris. This does not affect the horse's vision.



This is generalised information and should not be treated as veterinary advice. Please consult your own vet regarding the specific treatment of your own horse.

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