



We're so excited that you're considering adopting a horse rescued and rehabilitated by Freedom Reigns Ranch!

Our rescue horses have so much to offer- the only difference between a rescued horse and another is that a rescue horse was, at some point, let down by humans. They came our way by owner surrender, law enforcement seizure, or rescue transfer and we had the privilege of rehabilitating them back to health physically and mentally. We're proud to offer these beloved horses a home where they will continue to be cherished and loved and esteemed as the beautiful creation they are.

Each horse is unique and has their own preferences, likes, dislikes, and needs. Since we are not primarily a rescue organization (our first mission is our mentorship program for youth), we have a handful (usually 3-15) rescue horses come through our gates each year. We'd love to keep them all, but then we wouldn't be able to help more. Thank you for helping us rescue more horses by considering adopting a Freedom Reigns Ranch Rescue Horse.

We have two types of adoption:

1. **Ownership Adoption:** this is the type of adoption you're most familiar with in which the adopter completes an application process, is approved to adopt, meets the prospective horse, is approved to adopt that horse after meeting the horse, pays an adoption fee, and the ownership is then transferred from Freedom Reigns Ranch to the adopter. At any point should the adopter want to sell, rehome, relocate, give, change custody, or not be directly responsible for the horse's daily care (other than a boarding barn situation where adopter maintains ownership), the horse must come back to Freedom Reigns Ranch (this is often termed "right of first refusal" however takes it a step further in that the adopter is not allowed to sell, rehome, relocate, give, change custody without the new responsible party going through the same adoption process or the horse returning to Freedom Reigns Ranch.
2. **Foster Care Adoption** (often considered a "care lease"): ownership of the horse is maintained by Freedom Reigns Ranch and the person in custody of the horse is afforded all the usual rights of an ownership adoption but the horse belongs to Freedom Reigns Ranch. Horses in this category are either aged 25+ and/or have medical conditions that require special management, most are still rideable but due to their medical conditions or older age are given extra protection by Freedom Reigns Ranch covering major medical expenses should the arise in addition to annual vaccines and dental exam/float. Foster Care Adoptors are responsible for the daily care including feeding, grooming, exercise, board at a facility or pasture maintenance suitable for equine, farrier, and non-major veterinary expenses (IE. Minor emergencies like choke, colic exam, laceration, etc.). Adopter shall have free use of the horse in exchange for boarding and care of said horse for the duration of said horse's natural life time or until termination of Agreement and return of said horse to Freedom Reigns Ranch. Whichever shall come first; so long as the terms of the Foster Care Adoption Contract are followed.

The type of adoption for each horse is listed. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis. These efforts are designed to protect the horses that we have nurtured back to health and love and to ensure they never end up in a situation that would require rescue again.

Adoption Requirements

These requirements are non-negotiable. We recognize that adoption from Freedom Reigns Ranch might not be for everyone, that's ok! Your perfect horse is out there and we'd be happy to refer you to other reputable organizations to consider.

1. You are over the age of 18 and legally able to sign paperwork.
2. You have the financial means and ability to appropriately care for a horse. (The average emergency farm call bill usually starts at \$1,000 and quickly exponentially increases. Average board in our area ranges from \$850-2500/month. Average annual additional expenses including routine vet, farrier (trim, more if shod), and incidentals should be expected of approximately \$3,000-4,000 per equine).
3. Any horses in your direct care and/or the premise where horse will be kept are free and clear of any illnesses and have been for at least 6 months.
4. Any horses in your care and/or the premise where horse will be kept are of appropriate body condition (5-7). No horses are below a BCS 4, and those that are a BCS 4 are well conditioned/muscled and currently showing in disciplines that require a lighter frame. No horses over a BCS 7 unless they are on a permanent dry lot and history of care can be proven/the animal arrived as a BCS 7+. (Current, photos dated within one month must be loaded with application)
5. Any horses in your care have current farrier, dental, vaccination, and FEC/worming protocols in place. (Documents must be uploaded with application.)
6. Vet, farrier, and equine dentist (may be vet) can provide a statement of your care of equines. (Numbers must be provided with application.)
7. Adopter has shown they can provide suitable high-quality forage year-round (grazing pasture and hay and/or dry lot with hay). And quality concentrated feed when necessary to maintain appropriate body condition.
8. Adopter has an understanding of appropriate equine care and basic equine emergency protocols. And has the ability to transport horse in an emergency (whether in their own approved, safe truck/trailer rig or has the contact of at least 2 friends who have the ability to do so with an approved, safe truck/trailer rig).
9. Appropriate fencing and pasture are maintained at your property. We do not permit barbed wire fencing in any equine enclosures. Every pasture/paddock must have appropriate shelter. (Photos of all areas must accompany application.)
10. Adopter does not keep or own a stallion or breed horses unless stallion/mares are papered, quality producing, showing animals. Mares are not kept at a barn where stallions are kept without appropriate and suitable professional facilities.
11. Horses will not be adopted to any individual or be permitted to be housed under the care of any individual (including a boarding facility) with history of animal abuse or neglect, violent crime, sending horses to auction or to known horse traders or kill buyers, housing or showing "padded" Tennessee Walking Horses, participated in "horse tripping", or otherwise abusive or neglectful circumstances.
12. You are not adopting the horse as a resale or project horse unless you have completed the appropriate addendum paperwork and can prove suitability for training said horse. It is our desire that any horse adopted from Freedom Reigns Ranch be placed in their "forever home".

Steps to Adopt

Initials: _____

Date: _____

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1. Application: all potential adopters must complete an application
2. Requirements: you have met the requirements and they are verified by Freedom Reigns Ranch.
3. Approved to Adopt: Being approved to adopt means you have met the requirements to adopt a potential horse from Freedom Reigns Ranch.
4. Adoption Meeting: Once interest in a horse is expressed, potential adopters pay a \$25.00 commitment fee when they make an appointment to meet a potential horse. The commitment fee cannot be transferred to another equine or another appointment time without at least 24 hours advanced notice. It accounts for the time and effort our staff use to spend time with you during your appointment. (Appointments may be made by emailing horses@freedomreignsranch.com or calling 615-721-2550.) Freedom Reigns Ranch, it's staff or representatives reserve the right at any time to stop an adoption appointment or determine that the horse is not a good fit for the potential adopter. We have often spent several months and have seen each horse in a variety of situations. Please trust our judgement if we say that we don't think the horse is a good fit for you- our true desire is for you to have a great partnership with your horse and for both horse and owner to thrive!
5. If you and Freedom Reigns Ranch's representative determine that the partnership is a good fit, adoption paperwork is signed, the adoption fee paid, and arrangements formally made for bringing your new horse home! All contracts must be signed and adoption fees paid prior to the horse leaving Freedom Reigns Ranch's custody. There will be NO exceptions to this rule.
6. If adopter fails to pick up horse at agreed upon date and time and appropriate notice (a minimum of 24 hours) was not given, adoption contract becomes void and all fees become property of Freedom Reigns Ranch. Adopter must begin adoption process over. If adopter or adopter's transport arrive to pick up horse in a rig that is determined to be unsuitable for safe transport the above rule applies. Suitable trailers should have working lights, a safe floor, mats *AND* shavings for traction, free of any sharp edges, free of erosion/no areas rusted through to the point of exposure, and a suitable vehicle for towing the weight of trailer, horse, and any equipment and passengers.
7. If at any point the adopter desires to sell, rehome, relocate, temporarily or permanently place horse in another person's care (other than a boarding barn in which adopter retains full ownership and use), becomes unable to care for, or otherwise no longer keeps horse in their custody, the horse *MUST* come back to Freedom Reigns Ranch or potential new owner must go through adoption and approval process prior to selling, rehoming, relocating temporarily or permanently, including "trial period", leasing, subleasing, or otherwise working or having custody of adopted equine. Violation of this policy involves a fine of \$10,000 USD *AND* all costs associated with locating, securing, transporting, caring for, and bringing horse back to Freedom Reigns Ranch and rehabilitating the horse if needed including, but not limited to vet, farrier, dentist, training fees, transportation, lawyer/legal/attorneys fees and court costs.
SIGNATURE IF YOU AGREE: _____ DATE: _____: "I agree to voluntarily relinquish said horse to Freedom Reigns Ranch, pay \$10,000 USD plus all legal/attorneys fees and any and all related costs to repossess horse by Freedom Reigns Ranch in addition to all medical/veterinary/feed/farrier/dental or any rehabilitative costs involved for said horse's rehabilitation if I sell/rehome/relocate temporarily or permanently, place into another person's care, neglect, abuse, abandon, or relinquish custody and/or care to any person other than myself without the approved permission of Freedom Reigns Ranch. I understand that permission must be in writing, from the Executive Director or Equine Manager and any future caretaker of said equine must complete adoption process and be approved by Freedom Reigns Ranch."
8. Freedom Reigns Ranch reserves the right to repossess any adopted equine/equine formerly owned by Freedom Reigns Ranch that has been adopted out or fostered by any individual that is below an BCS 4 or over a BCS 7 for any reason, has neglected hoof care, has rain rot/skin/fungal infection covering more than 15% of photographable surface as

viewed from directly above the withers or from any side angle as evidenced by scabs, hair loss, or coat matting with sebum, or is determined to be neglected by a veterinarian, department of agriculture agent, sheriff or police, or any law enforcement or equine professional qualified to make determination of neglect under TCA 39-14-211(1(a,b,c)).

9. Adopter shall allow Freedom Reigns Ranch to enter Adopter's premises where the equine is located and inspect the equine and the premises in order to verify compliance with adoption contract. Failure to allow inspection with 24 hours' notice will result in equine being brought back to Freedom Reigns Ranch immediately and the adoption being terminated permanently; Freedom Reigns Ranch will not be required to give notice if Freedom Reigns Ranch has determined the horse's life may in danger or the care is so deficient the time frame could result in the harm of equine. Opting to revoke the right to inspect the facility where the equine will result in immediate recovery by Freedom Reigns Ranch of the equine.
10. Follow Up: the first 6 months the adopter will email horses@freedomreignsranch.com within the first week of every month:
 - A. Photographs of the horse (each side, topline, face)
 - B. Photograph of horse's hooves
 - C. Vet report at semi-annual vaccination time stating body condition, and impression of care of the equine
11. Follow Up: for the life of the equine, adopter will provide the following within the first 10 days of each March, July, and October:
 - A. Photographs of the horse (each side, topline, face)
 - B. Photograph of horse's hooves
 - C. Once per year: Vet report as noted above OR receipt of at semi-annual vaccinations, including dental exam or float.
12. If horse passes away, adopter shall notify Freedom Reigns Ranch within 1 hour. If electing humane euthanasia, adopter shall provide notice to Freedom Reigns Ranch within 1 hour.

With a clear understanding of all of the aforementioned conditions, policies, and obligations, we invite you to complete our adoption application!