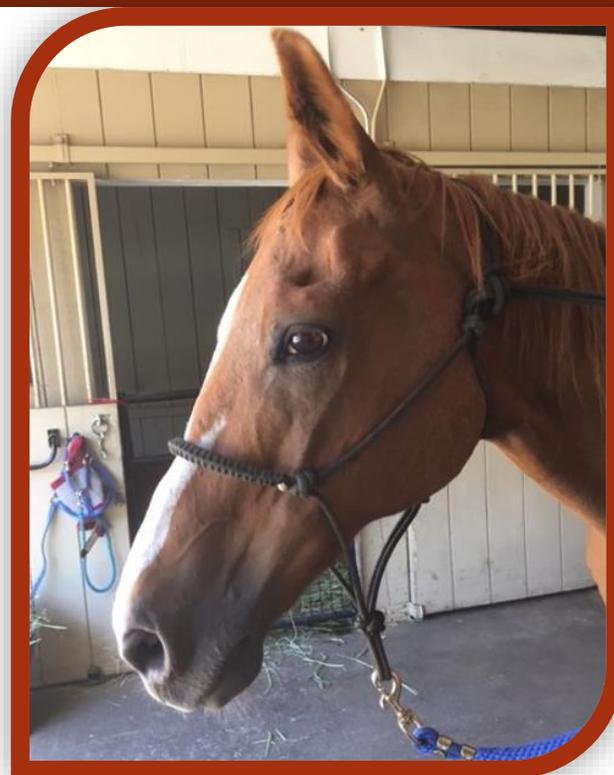




Equine Adoption Program



January 2018

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Adopting from Finally Home Horse Rescue

Thank you for your interest in adopting a horse from Finally Home Horse Rescue (FHHR). Our adoption goal is to give our adoptable horses the best chance at being placed in their forever safe homes with caring, responsible owners.

Our horses are evaluated by a veterinarian when they arrive, their medical and nutritional issues have been addressed, and by the time they are ready to be adopted, they have been trained, worked with, and handled extensively to become friendly, healthy and trusting.

We are always thrilled when one of our horses finds a new loving family; each and every one of them is very special to us, and from the moment they come through our gate, a huge team effort is made to rehabilitate them emotionally and physically from whatever trauma they have suffered.

While we're excited to see one of our horse family members get adopted, we're hopeful they won't ever find themselves in as precarious a situation as originally brought them to us. To that end, our Adoption Policy covers not only the process of the actual Adoption, **but includes agreements that follow the horse throughout the rest of his/her life.**

Adoption Fees are based on a number of factors, including breed, training, age, temperament, treatment and care the horse has received, on-going health care needs, as well as whether he/she can be ridden. Remember that you are helping rescued horses, and that typically, far more has been invested in the horse than the adoption fee, so there is no room to barter, and we cannot accept less than the listed amount. All adoption fees are due and payable when the adoption is approved and the Equine Adoption Contract has been signed.



Adoption Process. The steps below outline the procedure for adopting a horse from FHHR, with more detailed explanations of each step found in the Policy section:

1. Read and familiarize yourself with FHHR's Adoption Policies and Procedures (for Adoption and for the life of the horse AFTER adoption).
2. Check out our horses available for adoption on our site:
<http://www.finallyhomehorserescue.org/adopt/>.
3. Fill out and submit an Adoption Application (include photos of your property and where the horse will live, etc.).
4. After your application has been reviewed for potential adoption, an appointment will be made for you to come and spend some time with the horse to determine if you are a good fit for each other.
5. A site visit will be performed by FHHR personnel to ensure the new home meets the adoption requirements defined in our Equine Adoption policy.
6. Once approved, the adoption fee will be paid, and the legally binding Equine Adoption Contract signed. The horse may then be transported, at the Adopter's expense, to his new home.



Adoptable Horse Categories

Finally Home categorizes our available horses to help you find the right horse for you. We work with all of our horses to determine their physical capabilities as well as their fit for types of riding.

FHHR volunteers follow the Natural Horsemanship training techniques, working on trust and groundwork before riding.

Riding Horses: These horses know groundwork and are suitable for riding. We work with them to ensure they are friendly and have good manners. Our trainers ride these horses.

Green Project Horses: These are still early in their training and would only be adoptable by experience horse owners.

Companion/Pasture Pet Horses: Because our horses are rescues, some are determined to be unfit for riding or strenuous work. We work with these horses on manners to ensure they are friendly and easy to handle as pets.



Equine Adoption Policy

A. FHHR will approve adoptions based on the best situation for The Horse

FHHR reserves the right to deny any adoption for any reason. Adoptions are not considered final until the Adoption Agreement is signed. Until that time, FHHR can choose to adopt the horse to a more suitable situation.

B. Standards of Care

Shelter: must provide adequate protection from the elements. At minimum, the shelter must be a 3-sided structure in good repair. A tent, carport, canopy or trees is not considered adequate. This is mandated by Washington State Law.

Feed & Water: required daily feed allowance (hay, grains and supplements) to maintain the horse in good health. FHHR will provide a nutritional program for each horse upon adoption. Must provide no less than 15 gallons of fresh water each day, either in buckets or regularly cleaned out water troughs. A pond or creek is not an acceptable primary source of water.

Fencing: safe, secure fencing in good repair; NO BARBED WIRE.

Adequate, safe, daily turnout: horse must be turned out on a daily basis for 6-8 hours. Situations where horses are not turned out, or are kept in stalls for over 18 hours a day will not be considered. **A mud-management plan** must be in place for the winter months. Paddocks and pastures must be free of debris or unsafe items.

Necessary veterinarian and farrier care: must include routine check-ups, vaccinations, teeth floating, deworming and regular trimming/shoeing by a qualified farrier. A veterinarian shall be called for any illness or serious injury. FHHR will provide information on veterinary & farrier care upon adoption.

C. First-time Horse owners

We encourage and welcome first-time horse owners to apply for adoption! For the safety of both the horse and the owner, we will review each case for suitability. We also ask that there be an experienced horse person available to provide guidance. We reserve the right to request that the first-time owner work with an approved trainer for a period of time before the adoption is finalized.

D. References

Three references are required, only one of which may be a family member. At least one reference should be someone who can vouch for your horse experience, such as a trainer, or someone who can answer questions about your animal care.

E. Site Visit

Prior to approval, a representative from FHHR will conduct a site visit at the location where the horse will be kept, to assure that the above requirements are adequately met. Because of this requirement, FHHR is only able to adopt to people who live within a reasonable distance from our location in Monroe, WA.

Horses may not be moved from their approved location or leased out to a third party without our approval during the first year after adoption.

Horses needing to be moved to new site after adoption will require a new site visit and approval by FHHR of that site **prior** to the move. It is the adopter's responsibility to notify FHHR 30 days prior to the move, to allow for the site visit to occur. It is also the adopter's responsibility to coordinate the new site visit with FHHR and the owner of the new site/facility.

F. Check-ins

FHHR will maintain an interest in the horse throughout the course of its lifetime. Adoptee agrees that FHHR may visit the horse occasionally without notice, and reserves the right to perform yearly site visits and ask for regular updates on how the horse is doing.

FHHR must be notified immediately if the horse dies. A veterinarian's statement/cause of death is requested, along with permission to contact the vet.



G. Removal or Reclaiming of Adopted Horses

FHHR reserves the right to remove the horse from any situation in which the horse is not being cared for properly or is deemed unsafe, or does not meet FHHR's standards of care. This right extends for the life of the horse.

H. No-Breeding Policy

The majority of horses that come to FHHR have been abandoned, relinquished or come from the kill-pen. Many times, this is due to the previous owners' inability to care for the horse, or because the horse no longer fits their needs. There are thousands of horses going to slaughter from the U.S. every year, and until there are homes for every horse in need, FHHR won't approve the breeding of our horses. Therefore, it is our policy that our mares must not be used for breeding, and our stallions and colts will be gelded before being offered for adoption.

I. Re-Sale Policy

FHHR's purpose is to find permanent forever homes for our horses. We realize that situations may change and the need to re-home may arise. Our policy is that adopters may not sell, lease, trade or transfer the horse to another party without written permission from FHHR. Provided the new home meets our Adoption Policy criteria, we will approve the request and we will ask the new owner/guardians to sign an adoption contract. The goal is not to prevent you from selling, leasing or re-homing the horse; we just want to be assured the horse will not end up in the same situation that initially brought it to FHHR.

FHHR has the first right of refusal no matter the situation.

If the adopter cannot keep the horse due to a change in circumstances, the adopter is responsible for doing everything possible to find a suitable new home for the horse that meets FHHR's Adoption Policy criteria. If a suitable home cannot be found, the owner can relinquish the horse to FHHR.

If more than one horse has been adopted from FHHR, and the need to re-home arises, and the adopter cannot re-home all horses suitably, all adopted horses must then be relinquished to FHHR.

J. Indemnification and Hold Harmless Agreement

Adopters must clearly understand that because these are rescue horses, we may not be able to provide any history or background on them prior to their rescue. It is FHHR's policy to disclose everything we learn about the horse while in our care, including behavior we observe, training or handling issues that arise, and medical or other veterinary concerns. However, because of the inherent lack of background information, there's always a degree of risk involved in adopting a rescue horse.

It is our hope that people who adopt from us want to give horses in need a good home, and understand and accept these potential limitations.





Finally Home Horse Rescue

21326 Woods Creek Road, Monroe, WA 98272
(360) 862-5100, info@finallyhomehorserescue.org

<http://www.finallyhomehorserescue.org>

