
Equipment and tools

It is easy to get carried away and buy, or plan to buy, lots of equipment for a horse property. While some items are undoubtedly invaluable, others will never pay for themselves in terms of how often they are used. For that reason it is usually better to hire certain pieces of equipment and buy others. Buying second-hand or sharing certain items with like-minded friends or neighbours is another option. Sometimes it is more cost effective to use contractors for certain jobs – this will mean that the job is done properly by someone who knows what they are doing.

What equipment is necessary?

Wheelbarrow

On the absolutely essential list is a wheelbarrow. Buy a good strong wheelbarrow as it will be the hardest working piece of equipment on the property.

Brooms and mucking out tools

Also on the essential list would be brooms of varying sizes and tools for picking up manure/mucking out.

Fencing tools

Fencing tools are essential if you plan to make and maintain your own fences. Good tools make the job of erecting a fence much easier, so buy a good pair of fencing pliers, a wire spinner to feed out the wire and a fence strainer that shows the amount of tension on the wire.

Harrows

Another essential piece of equipment is some form of pasture harrow for paddock maintenance. It breaks up and spreads manure and at the same time lightly aerates the top few centimetres of the soil. Pasture harrows can either be commercially made or