

# Mud, Sweat, and Ears: The Ultimate Guide to Caring for Your Horse's Ears

Your horse's ears are one of the most important sensory organs on his body. They allow him to hear predators, communicate with other horses, and maintain his balance. But because they're so exposed, they're also prone to a variety of problems.



## Mud Sweat and Ears by Julie L. Spencer

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2660 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 141 pages
Lending	: Enabled



This comprehensive guide by Julie Spencer covers everything you need to know about caring for your horse's ears, from anatomy and cleaning to common problems and treatments. With clear, concise instructions and helpful photos, Spencer makes it easy to keep your horse's ears healthy and happy.

## Anatomy of the Horse's Ear

The horse's ear is divided into three main parts: the outer ear, the middle ear, and the inner ear. The outer ear is the part that you can see, and it

consists of the pinna (the floppy part of the ear) and the ear canal. The middle ear is located behind the eardrum and contains the ossicles, three small bones that transmit sound vibrations from the eardrum to the inner ear. The inner ear is located deep within the skull and contains the cochlea, which is responsible for converting sound vibrations into electrical signals that the brain can interpret.

## **Cleaning Your Horse's Ears**

Regular cleaning is essential for keeping your horse's ears healthy. Dirt, wax, and debris can build up in the ear canal, which can lead to infection or irritation. To clean your horse's ears, you will need:

- A clean cloth or cotton ball
- A solution of half white vinegar and half water

To clean your horse's ears, follow these steps:

1. Gently lift your horse's ear flap and insert the cloth or cotton ball into the ear canal. Twist the cloth or cotton ball to loosen any dirt or debris.
2. Dip the cloth or cotton ball in the vinegar solution and wipe out the ear canal. Do not insert the cloth or cotton ball more than 1 inch into the ear canal.
3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 until the cloth or cotton ball comes out clean.
4. Dry your horse's ears with a clean cloth.

You should clean your horse's ears once a week, or more often if he is exposed to a lot of dirt or dust.

## Common Ear Problems in Horses

There are a number of common ear problems that can affect horses, including:

- **Ear mites** are tiny parasites that live in the ear canal. They can cause itching, irritation, and inflammation.
- **Ear infections** can be caused by bacteria, viruses, or fungi. They can cause pain, swelling, and discharge.
- **Ear tumors** are rare, but they can occur in horses of any age. They can cause pain, swelling, and discharge.

If you notice any of the following signs of an ear problem in your horse, it is important to consult with your veterinarian:

- Head shaking
- Pawing at the ears
- Rubbing the ears against objects
- Discharge from the ears
- Swelling or redness of the ears
- Pain or discomfort

## Treating Ear Problems in Horses

The treatment for an ear problem in a horse will depend on the underlying cause. Ear mites can be treated with topical medications or oral antibiotics. Ear infections can be treated with topical antibiotics, oral antibiotics, or antifungal medications. Ear tumors may require surgery to remove.

It is important to follow your veterinarian's instructions for treating your horse's ear problem. If the problem does not improve with treatment, or if it recurs, it is important to consult with your veterinarian again.

## **Preventing Ear Problems in Horses**

There are a number of things you can do to prevent ear problems in your horse, including:

- **Regularly clean your horse's ears.** This will help to remove dirt, wax, and debris that can build up in the ear canal and lead to infection or irritation.
- **Keep your horse's ears dry.** Wet ears are more likely to develop infections.
- **Protect your horse's ears from insects.** Insects can carry bacteria and parasites that can cause ear infections.
- **Get your horse vaccinated against strangles.** Strangles is a bacterial infection that can spread to the ears and cause serious damage.

By following these tips, you can help to keep your horse's ears healthy and happy.

## **Free Download Your Copy of Mud, Sweat, and Ears Today!**

Mud, Sweat, and Ears is the most comprehensive guide to caring for your horse's ears on the market. With clear, concise instructions and helpful photos, Spencer makes it easy to keep your horse's ears healthy and happy. Free Download your copy today!

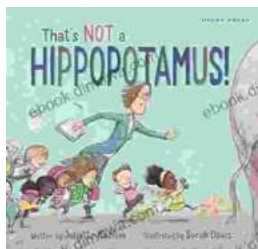
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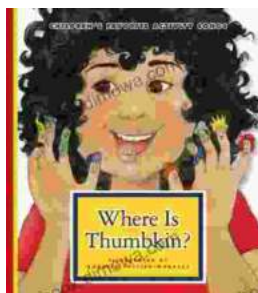
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