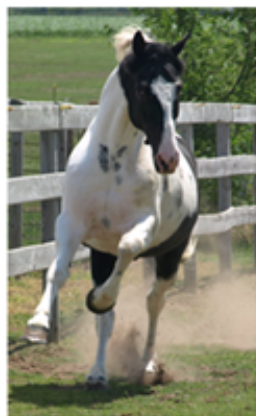


Tips for Photographing Horses

From Equine Artist Karen Brenner www.karenbrenner.com

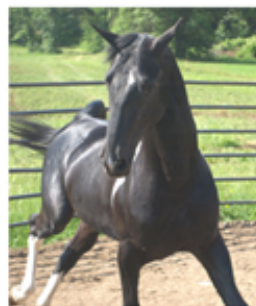


1. Bright sunlight will enable you to take fast action shots.

2. A viewfinder on your camera will allow you to steady the camera against your face while planning your shot.



3. Babies are so cute! Just stay on your toes and out of their way – they think cow kicking the photographer is a fun game!



4. Observe the personality of each horse, and do your best to capture that personality in your photographs.



5. An assistant to help you during the shoot is essential. They can help get the horse to the perfect location or get the horse moving for action shots.



6. Practice panning your camera – look through the viewfinder and follow the horse as it moves around the pasture.



7. Watch for great morning light! If you are lucky like I am and have horses in your backyard, keep an eye on the sunrise. Sometimes the lighting is just perfect. Grab your camera and start taking pictures immediately! Light changes every minute.



8. If your goal is great photos, be aware of the background. If your goal is reference material for paintings, the background doesn't matter!



9. To capture the horse's attention equip your assistant with things the horse hasn't seen before – rattles, mirrors, plastic bags. When you are set to take the photo, whip out your stuff!



10. Sometimes the neighbors can add a lot to a photo! Use the whatever interesting things are around to add interest to your photographs.



11. Take close up photos from all different angles, and pay attention to interesting shadows.



12. Always know where the horse is! It's easy to lose track when you are looking through the viewfinder. Keep one eye on the horse.



13. Do not carry treats unless you only want very, very close up shots.



14. Take a few pictures of the horse and owner together. Can you capture their special relationship?



15. Evening light is beautiful.



16. Be sure to take some shots without a halter.



18. For action shots, practice! Know how long it takes for your camera to snap the picture after you press the button. Learn to plan ahead.