



**Pferdeambulanz Burg Mueggenghausen GmbH**

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**Dear customer!**

We appreciate the opportunity to offer you our services for a pre-purchase examination of a horse. In combination with this document we have also sent you the attached informal instruction document on the pre-purchase examination process at the equine clinic Burg Mueggenghausen GmbH, which you should have carefully read and signed.

To provide you with as much information and transparency as possible, we need some information in advance of the pre-purchase examination so that we can prepare everything in the right way. Therefore, we would like you to fill in this record as well, prior to your visit to our clinic. You can send all completed pages to us by fax. When you cannot be present during the pre-purchase examination, it is very important that we receive these forms, filled in, in advance. The form is still required even when you are able to be present during the examination.

It is also important that you confirm who will represent you should you not be attending the examination. For this you will have to fill in the authorisation on the attached instruction document.

**Customer:** (I am  purchaser  vendor)

I will be present personally during the examination

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I will **not** be present personally during the examination.

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of payment:**

I want to pay:  cash on the pre-purchase examination day  credit card

VISA  MasterCard

**Cardholder:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Valid thru:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Card No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CVC No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**purchaser** /  **vendor**:

**Information about the horse:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tel. :** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Breed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Color:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_

Mare  Gelding  Stallion

**Passport number:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Others:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please fax this form together with [page 4](#) of this information document**

## Instruction document for our clients regarding pre-purchase examinations

Dear customer,

This document provides information about the standard procedures and available options for a pre-purchase examination. If you are considering the sale or purchase of a horse, our team would be happy to guide you through this process.

Due to new purchase rights and changes in veterinary liability insurance requirements in Germany, there is the wish to provide you with some additional information about the process of pre-purchase examinations. We also provide you with the opportunity to determine the extent, and therefore also the price, of the examination. To optimise the process of a pre-purchase examination for all involved parties, we developed this information document which provides you as our client with everything you need to know about the pre-purchase examination.

### 1. The pre-purchase examination

The true purpose of a pre-purchase exam is to help provide the purchaser with enough information to make an informed decision as to whether a horse will meet his/her needs.

A pre-purchase examination can be divided into the clinical exam and additional procedures such as radiography, ultrasound, endoscopy, laboratory tests etc. These procedures serve as a physical examination for evaluating health and serviceability of the horse at the time of examination.

Although the examination is taken with great care, the possibility still exists that some hidden or undetectable deficits are not determined (examples: crib biting, weaving, allergies, chronic allergic bronchitis). The broadening of the pre-purchase examination and the use of advanced diagnostic tools would reduce this danger but cannot eliminate it. We are there to assess general health, conformation, and soundness for intended use. This is only relevant at the time that the horse is shown to us.

Please, also keep in mind that the horse is a living being, which can become sick and develop disorders at any time, as with humans.

### 2. Explanation by the vendor

It is only with the help of the vendor that the veterinarian can obtain certain specific information about the horse, in particular, that referring to the past. At this point all of the information provided by the vendor is of great value. Biased or false information could result in less reliable interpretation of the findings by the veterinarian. That is also the reason why the vendor of the horse needs to fill in a questionnaire and authorise the examination protocol.

The one who gives orders the examination (vendor or purchaser) should ensure that all of the information referring to the horse is available at the time of the examination. Only with this information can a complete examination be performed.

### 3. Separate parts of the examination

*Clinical examination, the 'protocol'.*

The clinical examination refers to the horse as a whole and should help us to get an impression of the current status of the horse.

Through this procedure the locomotion, heart and circulatory system, eyes, skin etc. of the horse is examined. If you are interested, you can have a look at the example of an examination protocol on our website ([www.equineclinic.de](http://www.equineclinic.de)).

The protocol report with the details of the horse you wish to purchase will be given to you as the customer after the examination is finished and when the examination fee has been paid.

Although a thorough clinical examination is performed, many of the internal regions are beyond the scope of this examination. There have been great progress within veterinary medicine over the last few years, and the number of available techniques for both diagnostics and therapy has increased enormously. Although these technical developments can be of great use, it is not possible to include them all in the standard pre-purchase examination. However, on special request, it is possible to include some more advanced techniques. More information about these possibilities will follow later on in this information form.

**Pferdeklinik**  
**Burg Mueggenhausen GmbH**

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Burg Mueggenhausen,  
den 11/2007

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15 41 200

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Kreissparkasse Euskirchen

Kontoinhaber:  
Pferdeklinik  
Burg Mueggenhausen GmbH

## Additional examinations

### Eyes

Within the standard pre-purchase exam only limited examination of the eyes is possible. Usually we assess the eyes of the horse in a dark room with a special ophthalmoscope. This is an easy and safe way to examine the eyes for possible alterations. However, certain alterations within internal structures of the eye such as vitreous body changes, abnormalities, retinal problems etc. cannot (sufficiently) be determined clearly in this way. More specific examinations like ultrasound, measurement of eye pressure, or application of medicaments within the eye may be needed.

When you have a specific requirement for a more intensive eye examination, we can also call in the help of an external equine ophthalmologist.

### Respiratory tract

Respiratory conditions without obvious clinical signs may not necessarily be detected during the standard pre-purchase exam.

For a specific diagnosis we have to apply special diagnostic techniques like arterial blood gas measurements, or processing samples from the trachea and lungs. Only with these additional, specific examinations is it possible to determine acute or chronic inflammation of the lung tissue. It is also possible to assess whether 'lung bleeders' have bled within the previous weeks, even without having any clinical symptoms of lung bleeding. This can be very appropriate for the examination of racing horses.

Please notify us in advance when you would like to have a specific respiratory examination performed, and then we will arrange this with our lung specialist.

### Endoscopic examination

Endoscopic examination is carried out to gain more information about the larynx, trachea and lungs. The examination of the lungs with a stethoscope before and after exercise cannot determine early acute and chronic defects. Also pathological lesions of the larynx, for example "roaring", can better be diagnosed with an endoscope.

### Radiology

A radiograph enables the veterinarian to interpret clinical findings in more detail and gives an overview of bone structures. This information is of great value for the veterinarian, but unfortunately a good radiograph cannot guarantee the future performance capacity of the horse.

Additionally we have to emphasize that we can only examine the radiographed locations. This also applies to the number of images taken e.g. of one joint. When only an overview radiograph has been taken of a joint, it is obvious that the veterinarian has less information than when several shots are taken from different angles. Nevertheless, one radiograph says more about the condition of the joint than no radiograph at all.

In our clinic we work with a high-tech digital x-ray machine to get the best possible images.

In additional PDF-files you will find a list with the two most commonly applied radiographic examination profiles; *the regular standardised German profile* and *the long list of all possible views*. But of course you are totally free to compose your own radiographic examination profile. Prices and examples of the separate images can be found in [the price & order list](#).

### Explanation of the German standardised "Roentgenleitfaden":

In Germany the protocol called "Roentgenleitfaden" is often applied for the assessment of radiographs for pre-purchase examinations. With the use of this protocol, radiographs are classified into different categories which reflect the state of the particular joint or bone structure. Veterinarians are not obliged to use this protocol.

Equine clinic Burg Mueggenhausen GmbH decided to use this protocol for judging a small number of standardised radiographs. You are free to decide whether you would like to have the radiographs examined according to this protocol or not. This protocol can only be applied to particular radiographs, the 12 standard radiographs with additional images (up to 19 in total); the other radiographs can not be assessed in these categories. The categorisation does not give any predictions about the usability or the clinical condition of the horse.

#### Abstract from the „Roentgenleitfaden“. Version of 2002

For all assessments (only for the standard 12 radiographs with 7 extended views) a classification into following four categories is proposed. This classification is mentioned during the questioning of both the purchaser and the seller of the horse as well as in the assessment form of the veterinarian:

##### **Category I**

No striking findings which can be classified as anatomic deviations.

##### **Category II**

Findings, which deviate slightly from the standard. Probably not clinically perceptible.

##### **Category III**

Findings, which deviate obviously from the standard. Modest probability of clinical perception.

##### **Category IV**

Findings, which deviate substantially from the standard. Higher probability of clinical perception.

The classification of the radiographs into the different categories is carried out by the assessing veterinarian.

**Intermediate classes:** The differentiation into the classes **I-II**, **II-III** und **III-IV** is possible. Intermediate classes are used when a radiograph cannot be clearly categorised. They also take into account the fact that veterinarians can differ in their opinions.

Findings of category II could be mentioned; findings in categories III and IV must be mentioned in the assessment. The general assessment and classification of the radiograph findings must include the number and relevance of the single findings. This complies **at least** the highest single category. A high frequency of single findings could lead to a classification into a higher category. It is important that we have up to date radiographs of the horse for our assessment.

At the end of the radiographic process following this protocol, the horse receives an overall classification grade which is based on the radiograph with the worst (highest) assessed category. If the customer orders an extended list of radiographs the classification could not be done.

### Ultrasonographic examination

Ultrasound examination is conducted for the assessment of some organs, mostly soft tissues (tendons, ligaments, muscle etc.), e.g. heart, lungs, uterus, ovaries etc. Therefore, we use our high-end machine from GE.

During a pre-purchase exam, ultrasound does not belong to the standard examination. When there is suspicion of e.g. tendon lesions of the distal part of the limbs or on special request of the customer, we can include this in the pre-purchase examination and any other desired ultrasound assessment as well. Purchaser and vendor must realise that, for excellent resolution, it is often necessary to shave or clip that part of the horse's body.

### "Doping" examination

With this doping examination, a blood sample will be processed in a specialized laboratory. During this examination it will be determined if NSAIDs, Cortisone or sedatives are present in the blood. The results of this test will be received two weeks after the sample is sent to the laboratory.

There are two different procedures:

1. When the blood is examined immediately, a so called "Doping set" is used (similar to that used in human sports medicine) and A and B samples are produced and sent to the laboratory. This method is, legally seen, the most reliable since the samples are taken and closed under supervision, with witnesses. The disadvantage is that the samples need to be examined right away because they cannot be stored. The additional costs connected to this procedure (materials, transport etc.) can amount to between **200 and 300 €**. The samples are processed at the Institute of Biochemistry in Cologne, Germany. This laboratory is officially accredited by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and has the necessary knowledge and equipment to perform this procedure.
2. We can store the blood in case it is needed for later examinations. Stored blood cannot be used in "Doping sets". If needed the blood will be prepared in such a way that the serum can be sent to the laboratory. For this, the following procedure is used: Blood is taken from the vein (approx. 100 ml) and those samples will be processed in our laboratory by our employees to separate the serum and store it in new tubes. Then it is stored in the fridge for half a year (collecting blood, processing and storage for 6 months **45 €**).

*Method 1 is more reliable for legal protection but method 2 is most commonly used. We advise vendor and purchaser to discuss what method should be applied since costs vary considerably. We recommend all involved parties to keep as minimum the option to examine the blood to prevent questions or misunderstandings later on.*

### Laboratory analysis

We have the facilities to conduct various laboratory examinations. On your request we can include such examinations in the pre-purchase examination. Some examples:

1. Export requirements:  
Every country has its own requirements; of course we know these requirements. This export examination includes serological, virological and bacteriological tests.
2. Blood work → examination of 12 or more blood parameters.
3. Faecal examination → worms, etc.

Naturally, it is possible to have other laboratory analyses. If this is the case we would like you to notify us in advance, because many analyses require some preparation time.

### Ancillary examinations

Other more specialised examinations could be useful, such as gynaecological examination which enables the veterinarian to examine the reproductive organs. This can be of value when the horse is used for breeding.

Another example is the rectal examination of organs in the pelvic and abdominal region.

Theoretically it is also possible to conduct even more specialised examinations like MRI, scintigraphy, computer tomography etc. In case you would like to have more information on the additional procedures available for a pre-purchase exam, do not hesitate to contact us.

## 5. Costs and liability of the clinical examination

For the pre-purchase examination, it is important that the purchase price of the horse has been written on the examination protocol form which has then been signed by hand. The price of the clinical examination depends on the value of the horse. This is because high purchase prices of horses bring along high insurance risks for the clinic.

Up to the price of 5,000 € the standard price for the clinical examination is **230 €** plus VAT. When the purchase price is higher than 5,000 € we charge an extra amount of 0.6% of the purchase price/value of the horse.

For example:

Purchase price in €	Minimum price in € plus 0.6%	Total amount in €	Price in € incl.19% VAT
10,000	230 + 60	290	345,10
35,000	230 + 210	440	523,60
150,000	230 + 900	1.130	1.344,70

In case the customer decides to terminate the examination because of negative findings, we only charge the minimum price of

230€ plus VAT **plus** any costs incurred for radiographs, blood samples or other performed examinations. But this termination must be done before the end of the examination.

Commonly, purchaser and vendor discuss in advance how the costs for the examination will be divided, or who is responsible for the costs. These are private agreements and will not influence the examination. Nevertheless we would like to emphasize that we need to know in advance who our customer is; this person is also responsible for the costs. We can only charge the costs for the examination to one person.

Please understand that we must know in advance who will pay and in which way the examination will be paid for. We offer you a wide range of payment options: including major credit cards like VISA and MasterCard or cash.

### 6. Contract conditions

Please keep in mind that the contract conditions on the **examination protocol** function as a basis of the contract conditions.

### 7. Presence during examination

It is of great value when you, as the customer are present during the examination. Then we can discuss the findings of the examination right away and if needed you can make decisions about how to continue the process in case of striking findings.

Besides that, we want to emphasize that the examination can only be executed when all papers are filled in the right way (customer signature, required examination profile, purchase price/value etc.).

### 9. Summary

The role of the veterinarian in a pre-purchase examination is to get an overview of the actual health status of the horse. More specifications and predictions about development of individual findings cannot be given. The result of this examination will not classify the horse as healthy or not healthy; we also do not grade or classify the health status of the horse.

When a severe deficit has been found, the pre-purchase examination will be discontinued and being discussed with the customer.

### Declaration

This form (4 pages, version **November 2007**) was given to me by the Equine Clinic Burg Mueggenhausen GmbH. I have read and understood all that it contains. Any outstanding queries I have in regard to this examination are noted below. (Court Landgericht Bonn, Germany).

Open Questions:

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Name of the horse.....(Important - Please write it down)

Name: .....

Place..... Date..... Signature.....

### **Authorisation (Vollmacht):**

I, ..... **(first and surname)** am the responsible customer of the pre-purchase examination of the horse ....., Sex: .....; Colour:....., Age: ....., by the equine clinic Burg Mueggenhausen GmbH. I authorize the following person: ..... **(first and surname)** to: represent me during the pre-purchase exam, clarify the examination profile, confirm the purchase price of the horse, accept the liability restrictions and obtain the examination results and confirm them with a signature. I also agree to pay for the costs of the pre-purchase exam.

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ 200\_\_  
Place Date Signature

**Please fax this page together with the pre-purchase basic form**