

# Healthy Animal Check List

Use a copy of this check list or a similar list to examine your animal regularly

Below are some possible signs of a sick animal. Hopefully, you can check “No” to all of them.	No	Yes	
Is your animal’s appetite poor?			
Is your animal standing hunched up with a drooping tail? Is your animal isolating itself away from other animals?			
Does your animal seem weak or uninterested in seeing you or in what is going on around it?			
Do your animal’s eyes look dull or cloudy?			
Are your animal’s eyes or nose very runny?			
Is your animal pressing its head against walls or grinding its teeth as if in pain?			
Are your animal’s gums and insides of the eyelids very pale rather than pink or white? What is your animal’s FAMACHA score?			
Is your animal coughing or breathing hard without having just done hard exercise?			
Does your animal appear suddenly blind or have “twirly eyes”. Is your animal circling or constantly trembling?			
When you pinch the skin over your animal’s ribs, does the skin NOT snap back into place immediately (possibly dehydrated)?			
Is your animal’s coat rough, crusty or flaky or does it have any bald spots from rubbing? Does your animal have any lesions or scabs, especially around its mouth, legs, ears or belly?			
When you push the hair forward on your animal’s back and shine a flashlight on it, do you see any evidence of lice or fleas?			
Is your animal lame or stiff moving? Does it have any blisters between its toes or an extremely foul smell to its feet?			
Does your animal’s belly NOT have normal rumen sounds? Does your animal’s belly appear very bloated on the right side?			
Does your animal have any unusual lumps/swellings on its face, body or legs?			
If your animal is milking, does her milk taste bad? Is her udder sore or lumpy or very cold or hot? Does her milk have milk clots or blood in it?			
If your animal is a male, is he having trouble urinating or is he stretching his back out as if in pain?			
Is your animal unusually fat or skinny? What is her body condition score?			
What is your animal’s body temperature? Normal is usually 101.5 - 103.5°F			
What is your animal’s respiration rate? Normal is about 12-24 breaths per minute for an adult and sometimes more for a kid			
What is your animal’s heart rate? Normal adult is about 70 - 90 beats/minute			