

# RETURN TO FREEDOM ADOPTION APPLICATION

Please read the Adoption Care Terms & Conditions carefully before completing this application. Care of a wild horse is a significant and long-term commitment of time, money and energy.

It should be specially noted by all applicants that the instinctive protective mechanisms of wild horses are significantly more pronounced than that of the domestically raised horse. As a result of their finely tuned protective mechanisms, wild horses will respond to pressure much more readily and assertively than domestic horses. Their responses to pressure may include kicking, biting, rearing and striking out in an effort to protect themselves from a perceived threat. Anyone who is involved in the handling and training of a wild horse should be aware of this fact. Return to Freedom (RTF) requires that any handler or trainer be proficient in gentle, minimal force handling techniques.

Due to the unique nature of wild horses, we regret that we are unable to accept applications from individuals under the age of 18. An application may be submitted by the parent or legal guardian who thereby agrees to be fully responsible for the horse's welfare.

## Prospective Adopter Information:

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

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

Mailing Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # (Home): \_\_\_\_\_ (Work): \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Years with employer: \_\_\_\_\_

## Experience with Horses:

What is your experience with horses? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you previously owned a horse?  Yes /  No If "yes," how long? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

What type of horse do you currently own or did you own? \_\_\_\_\_

Please state: Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Acquired: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Time Owned: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you still own the horse?  Yes /  No

If you no longer own the horse, do you know where he/she is now? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please explain why you no longer have your horse: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What discipline did you use your horse in? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What training methods and/or philosophies did you use? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you changed any of your training methods and /or philosophies? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you attended any classes or clinics regarding the care and training of horses?  Yes /  No

If yes, which classes and/or clinics have you attended? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want a wild horse? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have experience with wild horses? If so, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the method you will use to train your wild horse: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Care and Feeding:**

Please describe your feeding routine (type of feed etc.): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please describe your exercise and/or training routine: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please describe your pasture/paddock maintenance routine: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Will your horse be alone or will he/she have the companionship of other horses?  Yes /  No  
Who will be responsible for caring for the horse? (Please indicate age and experience level)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Who will be responsible for the horse's care in the event you are sick or are away on vacation?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Do you have sufficient time and income to support a horse on a long term basis?

Please describe what you anticipate your daily routine would be in caring for & interacting with your horse? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Type of animal you are requesting, please circle: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender:  Stallion,  Mare,  Mare with Foal,  Gelding

Age:  1-5 Years,  5-10 Years,  10 Years or older

How do you plan to use your animal? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Does the appearance of the animal matter to you?  Yes /  No

Will you accept an animal with physical problems?  Yes /  No

Will you accept an animal that cannot be ridden?  Yes /  No

Who will use the horse if it is to be ridden? (Indicate height, weight, and if a child, state age).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please give level of riding experience of each rider. To ensure the safety and compatibility of horse and rider, please provide as much useful information as possible. (i.e years riding, horseback riding lessons, experience with young, green horses, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you working with an instructor?  Yes /  No

Name of Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Riding Discipline (i.e. Western, English, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Farrier: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the location of where the horse is to be kept. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Where will your horse be kept? Please circle:  Stall  Corral  Paddock  Pasture

Please describe your paddock/pasture maintenance routine. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have fresh water available at all times?  Yes /  No

Water Source:  Creek  Lake

Do you have at least 400 square feet for each animal you are applying for?  Yes /  No

What type of fencing do you have? \_\_\_\_\_ Fence Height: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there adequate drainage in the paddock or pasture during the rainy season? \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide specific directions to the location where the horse will be kept. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Please provide photo of actual location where horse will be kept.*

Do you own the place where the horse(s) will be kept?  Yes /  No

If renting facilities, please have the following portion completed by your landlord:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, state that I own the property legally known as

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

in the County of \_\_\_\_\_, in the State of \_\_\_\_\_

And give my permission to have horses maintained on my property.

Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

(Printed) Signature of Owner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

How do you plan to transport the horse(s)?

Please describe the type of trailer you will be using to transport and the distance you will be covering:

Are you prepared to meet all costs involved in transporting your horse? \_\_\_\_\_

I fully understand that I am legally responsible for horse that I adopt and I have read and agree to the Terms and Conditions of Return to Freedom's Adoption program.

I understand that the use and control of horses is a hazardous activity. If I am accepted as an Adopter, I release and indemnify Return to Freedom and its agents of all liability from damages to person or property caused by the horse in my custody, care and control.

I authorize you to verify all references, including veterinarian, trainers, farriers, landlord, employers, etc. named in this document. I also authorize you to perform a credit check and/or background investigation on myself or the proposed, named legal Adoption caregiver.

I also understand that the horses are not available for re-homing or sale and must be returned to Return to Freedom at my own expense should I not be able to continue to provide an adequate home or care for Adopted horse(s) or that any re-homing of the horse(s) must be approved in writing in advance by Return to Freedom.

I agree to contact RTF before giving away or selling a horse adopted through RTF (also applies to foals born to pregnant mares adopted through this program), and I will return the horse or horses to RTF at my expense instead if requested. I understand that to violate this condition will result in a \$1,000 per horse penalty. I also understand that RTF also has the option of approving any potential alternate adopter of a horse adopted through RTF and must be approved by RTF before leaving my care and control.

PROHIBITED ACTS: 1. Maliciously or negligently injuring or harassing an adopted horse; 2. Treating a horse inhumanely or subjecting horse to obscene behaviors; 3. Selling a horse, whether intentional or unintentional, for sale for slaughter; 4) selling, giving, leasing, or loaning a horse to another person deemed by Return to Freedom to offer inadequate living/housing conditions or where any animals on the property receive neglectful or abusive treatment.

The applicant does hereby warrant that the answers given in the "Return to Freedom Adoption Application" are to the best of his/her knowledge and belief, true and correct.

Due to the extensive costs involved in providing medical care, basic handling, routine maintenance and feeding, Return to Freedom respectfully requests an adoption fee per horse which will be determined on a case by case basis depending on level of training etc. This fee is non-refundable after two weeks or in the case of repossession due to breach of contract.

Horse (s) name(s)	Gender	Age
1) _____	_____	_____
2) _____	_____	_____
3) _____	_____	_____
4) _____	_____	_____

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Date \_\_\_\_\_

RTF Representative /Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal References:**

**Reference 1 - Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to adopter: \_\_\_\_\_ How long they have known you: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference 2 - Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to adopter: \_\_\_\_\_ How long they have known you: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference 3 - Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to adopter: \_\_\_\_\_ How long they have known you: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_