

Guide to Horse Leasing & Ownership

So you and your family are ready to take the next step in the sport of Equestrian! Horse ownership and leasing is one of the most rewarding and exciting stages in this sport. However, it can also be one of the most confusing. Our job is to make this process as professional, safe, and exciting as we can. This guide will walk through what it is like to own or lease a horse at Cadence Equestrian Center.

Cadence Riding Academy Lessons vs. Horse Ownership & Leasing

Cadence Riding Academy:

As you know the Cadence Riding Academy is the perfect way to learn how to ride, gain horsemanship skills, and compete in entry-level competitions. The Cadence Riding Academy takes riders from their first time on a horse through the short/long stirrup division otherwise known as 2' foot vertical fences. The Cadence Riding Academy allows riders to take riding lessons on academy horses weekly and compete at in-barn horse shows.

Horse Leasing or Ownership:

Purchasing or leasing a horse gives riders many exciting opportunities including; traveling to out-of-barn horse shows, moving past the short/long stirrup division, free riding without lessons, and overall more time spent at the barn.

Leasing or buying a horse allows riders to come to the barn anytime during barn hours and ride, groom, or just spend time with their horse or pony. Riders are not restricted to lessons, they may use any riding arena or our trails anytime during barn hours. Riders can also compete in horse shows throughout the state and the nation. Horse shows run all year long and include every division so competitive riders can compete as often as they prefer. Owning or leasing a horse also allows riders to practice more often and move up divisions quickly. Unlike the Cadence Riding Academy, riders are not limited to fence height so they can move up effortlessly through the levels.

Why Lease or Buy a Horse?

Although buying or leasing a horse is a huge financial decision. It will be one of the best decisions you and your family will ever make. Horses and the sport of equestrian prepare children for the real world. They improve self-esteem, work ethic, and responsibility. Horses shape children into leaders. They keep children out of trouble by giving them a built-in social life at the stable with plenty of exceptional role models. They teach children the value of money and most importantly goal-setting and ambition. Horses boost self-confidence while also teaching humility and patience. The sport also provides great exercise, riding and caring for horses keep children outside and away from the electronics. These reasons along with countless others are why you should consider leasing or owning your own horse. Horses and the sport of equestrian will instill great habits that will last a lifetime.

Finding the Perfect First Horse or Pony

Buying or leasing a horse is an important financial and emotional investment and we recommend that you always seek the help of an equine professional. Cadence Equestrian Center staff has the experience to help you in the selection of safe, suitable & sound horses as well as negotiating sales.

Our connections with reputable stables & equine professionals within our region, as well as throughout the United States and abroad, helps ensure a positive experience and outcome for both horse & rider. CEC staff can also market and sell your horse in the future.

Buying vs. Leasing

Deciding whether to lease or purchase can be a difficult decision. Horse leasing and purchasing have very similar benefits. We recommend discussing both options with your CEC instructor to decide which fits your family best.

- **Lease:** *Written contract by which an owner (the lessor) of a specific asset (the horse or pony) grants a second party (the lessee) the right to its exclusive possession and use for a specific period and under specified conditions, in return for specified periodic rental or lease payments.*

LEASE TYPES	
Full-Lease	Half-Lease
In the full lease situation, the lessee usually pays for all of the horse's costs in return for full use of the horse. The restrictions on the full lease are much less than on a half-lease.	The half-lease situation otherwise known as a share lease, is less expensive than leasing a horse completely by yourself. In the half-lease, all expenses are split between two individuals. The days of the week on which the horse is ridden are also split between the two lessees.

Advantages of Leasing	Disadvantages of Leasing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower up-front payment and no long-term commitment. • You can lease a nicer horse or pony for less than their purchase price. • Lower risk in veterinary bills because lease contracts have a specified veterinary cost cap. • You can more easily transition to a horse or pony. • Loss of use- the horse returns to owners. • There are no hassles at the end of the lease to sell. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You don't own the horse at the end of the lease (although there is likely the option to buy). • In the long run, leasing is more expensive than buying one horse or pony and keeping it for years. • It can be costly to terminate a lease early.

- **Purchase:** *acquire (something) by paying for it; buy.*

Advantages of Buying	Disadvantages of Buying
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More freedom and choice in what to do with the horse or pony. • Buying is more economical over the long term. • You can ride as much as you like. • You have more flexibility since you can sell the horse or pony whenever you want. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usually requires a higher up front payment. • The horse or pony becomes owners full responsibility.

Horse Owner or Lessor Responsibilities

Cadence Equestrian Center makes owning or leasing a horse a breeze. By being a full-service facility we can cater to every age, lifestyle, and ability.

You will be responsible for the 2 following services: Monthly boarding and a monthly training package.

1. Monthly Boarding

To keep your horse at Cadence you must pay for boarding. Cadence offers two choices in boarding: full-care stall or full-care pasture board.

Full- Care Stall Boarding		Full-Care Pasture Board
\$650 <i>East or West Barn Stalls</i>	\$675 <i>Brick Stalls</i>	\$425 <i>Group Pastures</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 x 12 stall in East or West barn • Twice Daily Feeding (Grain and hay plus access to clean water 24/7) • Tack locker for riding equipment • Fans (purchased by owner) • Blanketing (blankets purchased by owner) • Barn fly-spay system • Night checks • Full use of facility 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group pasture • Once Daily Feeding (Grain and access to clean water 24/7) • Round Bale Hay (during the winters, fall, and spring) • Full use of facility

2. Lessons & Training

Cadence Equestrian Center recommends continuous riding lessons and training for all horses and riders. There are two options for lessons and training: individual (al-la-carte) services or training packages. We recommend choosing one of our training packages instead of individual services. These training packages were created to make horse ownership easier, and lessons and training cheaper.

➤ OPTION 1:

TRAINING PACKAGES	
GOLD	SILVER
\$525/per month	\$450/per month
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 services (lessons or training rides) per month. • Free handling of vet & farrier appointments. • Groom fee included • At shows: no training charges on non-showing/schooling days. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 services (lessons or training rides) per month. • Groom fee included

➤ OPTION 2:

Individual (Al-La-Carte) Services	
Group, Private or Semi-Private Lessons	\$45/per lesson
Training Rides	\$45/per ride
Groom Fee	\$30/per month
Appointment Handling (farrier, etc.)	\$10
Vet Appointments	\$25/hour and \$50/hour for after hours/holidays

The Process:

Step 1- Inform your CEC instructor you are interested in buying or leasing.

Inform your CEC instructor that you are interested in leasing or buying. This is a good time to discuss budgets and whether leasing vs. buying is better for you and your family.

Step 2- Budget & Time Frame

Like cars horses come in all prices. It is a good idea to come up with a number you are willing to spend in your head. If you are unsure of what horses cost speak with a CEC instructor. It is also a good idea to inform your instructor on when you would like to take the leap into horse ownership and leasing.

Step 3- Shopping & Trials

Our CEC staff members are highly trained to shop for horses and ponies that make a good match for all levels of riders. As your instructor finds horses and ponies trials begin. If the horse is already living at Cadence trials are done during lessons. If the horse is located at another facility CEC trainers may either have the horse shipped to Cadence or travel on location to try the horse.

Step 4- Pre-Purchase Exam

Once you have narrowed it down to a good match you may consider having a pre-purchase exam done on the horse by a vet. Pre-purchase exams ensure the horse is healthy and without any underlying issues.

Step 5- Bill of Sale or Lease Agreement

Once you and your instructor have chosen the perfect match it is time for the final step, the paperwork. If you are purchasing the horse a bill of sale must be signed and payment given to seller. This is all done through your CEC trainer. Note: A CEC 10% commission/search fee may apply. If you are leasing a lease agreement is signed, payment given to lessor and the lease begins and ends on the agreed upon date. Make sure to read over all terms before signing.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. To own or lease a horse will I need to purchase a horse trailer?

A. No, CEC instructors provide hauling for customer horses at a low-cost.

Q. To own or lease a horse will I need to buy property?

A. No, CEC provides full-care boarding for horses and ponies.

Q. Will I need to buy equipment?

A. You will only need to buy tack (saddle, bridle, etc.) and grooming supplies. Instructors can guide you on what to buy.