





## The Body Condition Scoring System Recommended by DEFRA

Score	Condition	Detailed Description	Visual Guide
1	Poor	<p><i>Tail head</i> – deep cavity with no fatty tissue under skin. Skin fairly supple but coat condition often rough.</p> <p><i>Loin</i> – spine prominent and horizontal processes sharp.</p>	
2	Moderate	<p><i>Tail head</i> – shallow cavity but pin bones prominent; some fat under skin. Skin supple.</p> <p><i>Loin</i> – horizontal processes can be identified individually with ends rounded.</p>	

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3	Good	<p><i>Tail head</i> – fat cover over whole area and skin smooth but pelvis can be felt.</p> <p><i>Loin</i> – end of horizontal process can only be felt with pressure; only slight depression in loin.</p>	
4	Fat	<p><i>Tail head</i> – completely filled and folds and patches of fat evident.</p> <p><i>Loin</i> – cannot feel processes and will have completely rounded appearance.</p>	
5	Grossly Fat	<p><i>Tail head</i> – buried in fatty tissue, pelvis impalpable even with firm pressure.</p>	