

Rubbermaid tub slow feeder



NEVER FOR HORSES WITH SHOES and would avoid with horned animals too

-We made the frames with EMT pipe that we bent and attached together.

-We used rubber closures and flanges from: diynetting.com

We bought 5x5 pieces of netting from Canada

<https://www.slowfeednetting.com/site/sizing-pricing-for-custom-netting> (holds up well, get an extra too). I like the 1.5" netting for not on a diet equines and 1" for dieting/super slow feeding. They have larger opening nets too. Star shaped closures on the model you can buy may work better than the rubber ones. But the rubber have worked well for us: <https://diynets.net/shop/ols/products/mini-quick-fist-latch>
Our best is just putting a rope and safe snap to create a closure (photo coming)

[Set available to buy here](#)

DIY RM100HF with metal frame - diynetting.com

We now have a DIY metal frame for Rubbermaid 50 or 75 gallon stock tanks. The heavy duty frame hinges attach to one side of the tank. The other side is securely fastened with easy to use twist knobs. The frame is made from four sections of galvanized 1/2" EMT and is held together with heavy duty, zinc coated couplers. Stainless steel set screws lock the couplers in place. We even include the hex wrench. This modular design allows for any one of the sections to be easily replaced if damaged by your horse.

This new frame now allows you to use a slow feed net with openings as small as 7/8".

All mounting holes are near the top of the tank in the event you use a new tank and wish to switch its use back to water.

Note that shipping will appear REALLY high but the vendor immediately refunds all but cost of shipping, his website just does a flat rate initially.



Positives: they eat peacefully and it takes 3x longer than when I put that amount of hay in hay nets. I have been able to get down to feeding twice a day (sometimes three if needed) without them being empty stomached for more than a couple hours and they also have some branches to chew on (mostly the donkeys and goats enjoy). I weigh out the total amount of low sugar teff hay for the four into four ikea bags and then put a bag in each feeder. It is easy to weigh out bags for another person to feed and for when I need to feed quickly before work. I like that I am opening each bale and if there is a bad bale I can see that right away. Filling them is easy and quick. There is no waste unless they don't finish and it gets wet (that really doesn't happen here). I have had 2-3 sharing from a feeder at a time and one of our donkeys and my gelding almost always share... feels more social than the smaller hay bags I was using. Doesn't seem to be affecting TMJs or having any negative affects on teeth either (possibly positive according to Thomas Teskey DVM). Can be placed inside or under cover. Easily movable to create interest and move as per weather, footing etc.

Negatives: Nets do tear at times but are easy to fix and not terribly expensive to replace. I've had six fist size holes in three months -- likely due to pawing and because my nets are too small on a couple of them. If raining you could drill holes in bottom. When 1.5" net gets snowy/frozen it is harder for them to get hay out. If horse paws it is a bit loud. Rubber closures need replaced at times. Our DIY version sometimes comes apart but it is an easy fix.





Depending on your horses: something taller like this might be safe for shod horses if they can't get hoof over. Also nice for stalls/covered areas.



Another option from facebook:

DIY quest, I knew I wanted to keep hay waste to a minimum, have them eat in a natural grazing position, and be able to put down a full bale at a time. My horses are on 24/7 forage, and each go through a 40lb bale every other day. I bought a 10x10' Hay Chix DIY 1 3/4 heavy duty netting, and cut it into 6 5x3' sections. The frame is PVC, and measures 42x22". I threaded the netting onto the frames and attached one short end of the frame to the wall with metal straps. The other end is clipped to eye hooks with carabiners. To fill I just open it, put the bale down, and clip it back in place. The wood manger keeps feet out and everything contained. 2 2x12" boards with 2x4" corner braces. - not sure who posted this but love it!

