



Directional Terms

The **palmar** surface is the surface of the front limb equivalent to the palm of the hand.

The same area of the hind limb is called the **plantar** surface.

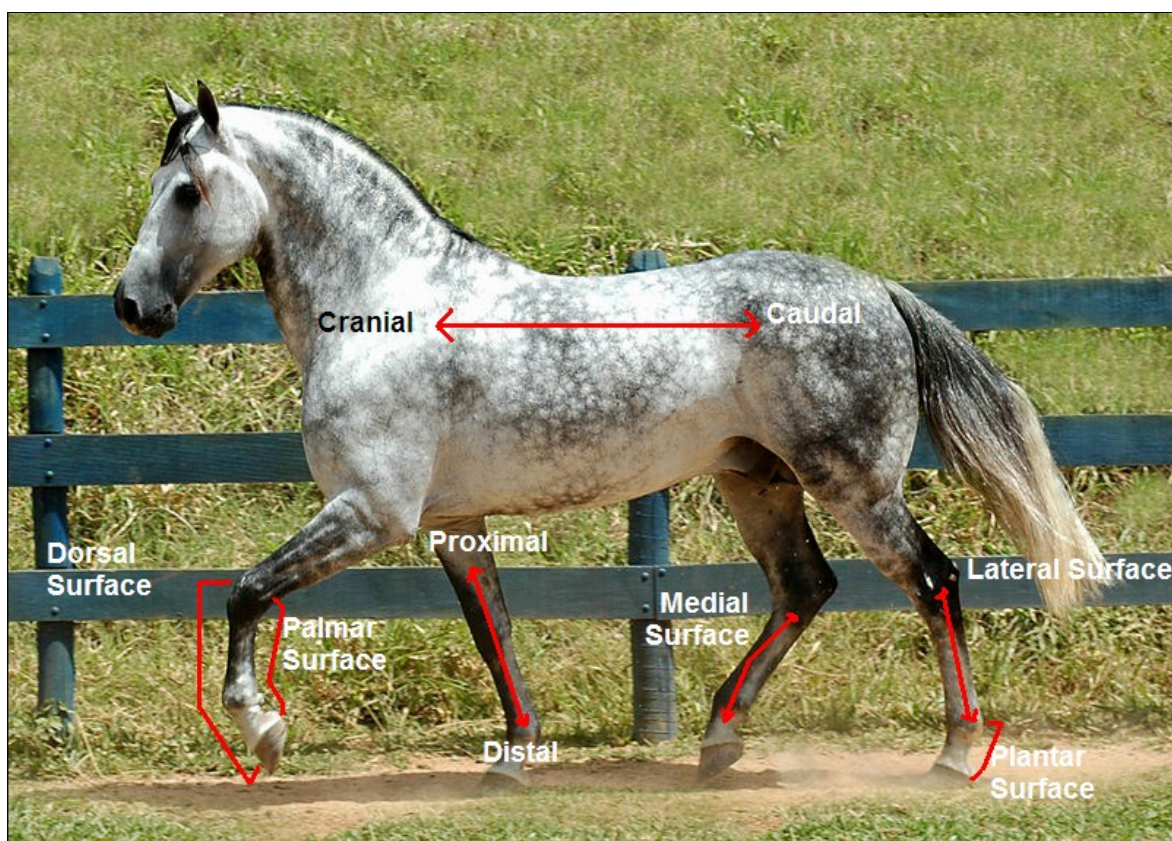
The opposite surface to palmar and plantar is named **dorsal**.

Proximal is the region further up the limb, while **distal** refers to the region further down the limb.

Medial refers to the side of the structure that is closest to the midline.

Lateral refers to the side that is farthest away from the midline.

Cranial is towards the head while **caudal** points towards the tail.



Why is this important?

To understand which direction is described on the equine hoof or body, directional terms are universally used by veterinarians and hoof care providers alike