

# Barding

All barding encumbrances listed in UA are reduced to 40% of their listed value when equipped. If not being worn by the mount, encumbrance is as listed.<sup>Ex1)</sup> Here is the reasoning:

Rules for barding were introduced in 1983<sup>2)</sup> and reprinted in UA in 1985. They are basically broken – mainly, the barding is far too heavy. Encumbrance was dramatically increased from the OD&D numbers, to the point where medium and heavy horses may not even be able to move at all.<sup>3)</sup> This was brought up in Dragon #118, but via a forum submission which was apparently not replied to by TSR.

| Barding | AC mod | Eq. cn. | Uneq. cn. | Base MV and Mi./day L/M/H Warhorse |
|---------|--------|---------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| Leather | -1     | 640     | 1600      | 21"/17"/15"                        |
| Scale   | -2     | 1000    | 2500      | 15"/15"/14"                        |
| Chain   | -3     | 1400    | 3500      | —/12"/13"                          |
| Plate   | -4     | 2000    | 5000      | —/—/12"                            |

<sup>1)</sup>

Inspired by Dragon #118 Forum.

<sup>2)</sup>

Dragon #74.

<sup>3)</sup>

<https://deltasdnd.blogspot.com/2023/07/how-much-weight-can-horse-carry-in-d.html>

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Last update: **2025-04-13 23:35**

