



EQUINE

THE BASICS:

- STALLION : male horse
- GELDING : castrated male
- MARE : female horse
- FOAL : baby horse
 - COLT : boy baby
 - FILLY : girl baby
- GESTATION PERIOD : 11 months
- LIFE SPAN : 20-30 years
- The Equine family includes; miniature horses, ponies, horses, donkeys and zebras.

THE EXTRAS:

- Horses have large eyes and excellent vision. They can see as well at night as they can during the day.
- Equine are highly social animals and live in family groups that join together into a herd.
- Equine have strong teeth, 44 in all. Their back molars never stop growing and need to be filed down periodically. You can tell the age of a horse by its teeth.
- Equine are called “odd toed” animals because they only have 1 hoof on each foot. Their hooves need to be trimmed every few months.
- Spanish conquistadors brought horses to the Americas in 1519. Some were left behind and eventually made it to the US where Indians began to use them.
- A pony is defined as a horse that has a height of less than 14.2 hands or 58 inches.

HOW TO MEASURE A HORSE’S HEIGHT:

A horse’s height is measured in “hands”. One “hand,” the width of an adult hand, is equal to 4 inches. If a horse is 15 hands, then it is 60 inches tall. Measurement is taken from the feet to the top of the shoulder which is called the withers.