

# GENERAL TERMS

- Mare - Female horse 4 years and older
- Stallion - Not castrated, Male horse 4 years and older, ability to breed
- Gelding - Castrated male horse, unable to breed

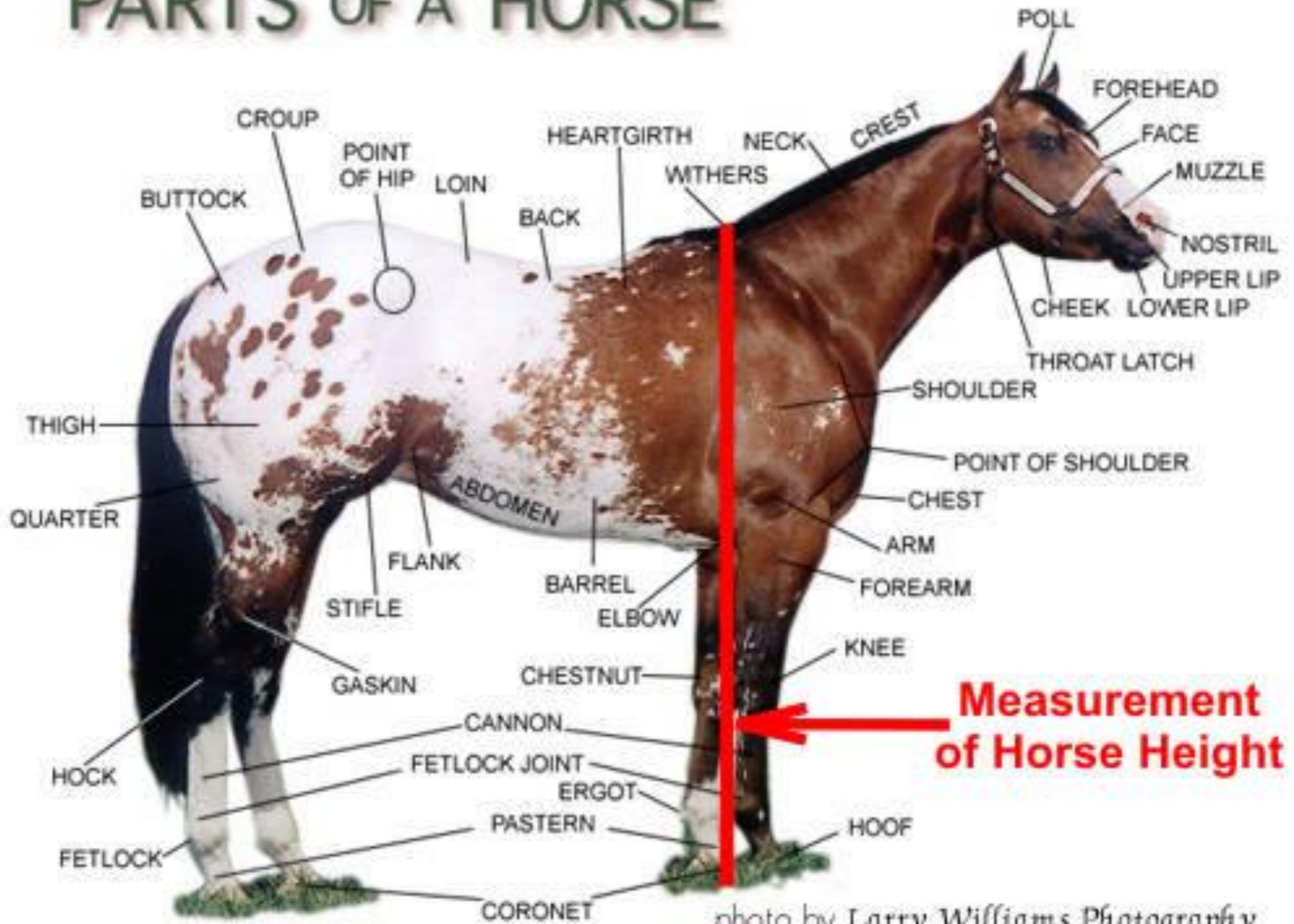
# BABY HORSES

- Filly - Female horse, 3 years and under
- Colt - Male horse, 3 years and under
- Foal - Newborn baby horse
- Weaning - Gradual process of separating a foal from its mother
- Weanling - filly or colt, 6months - 1 year of age
- Yearling - filly or colt, 1 - 2 years of age

# HORSE MEASURING

- Hand - Unit of measurement used to measure horse height
  - 4 inches
  - Taken from flat ground to top of withers
- Horse - 14.3 Hands high and above
- Pony - 14.2 Hands high and under, full grown

# PARTS OF A HORSE


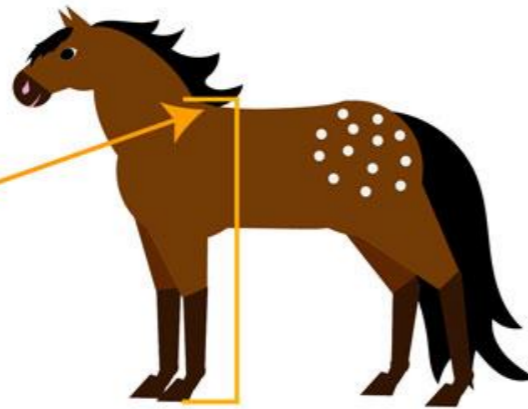


**Measurement of Horse Height**

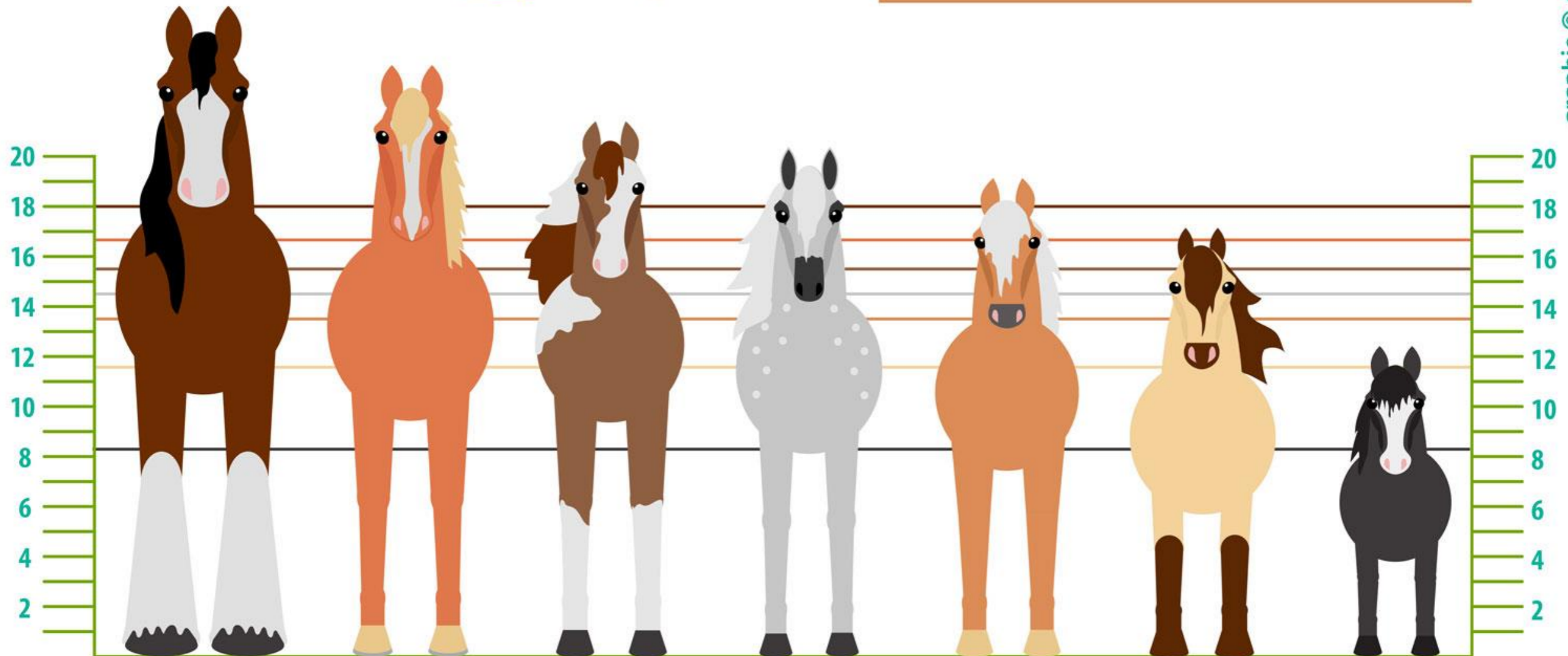
photo by Larry Williams Photography

# Breed Height

A horse is measured from the top of its **withers** not from the top of its head.



Horses are measured by "hands."  
One hand = four inches.  
"17hh" means "17 hands."



**Clydesdale**  
17hh to 18hh

**Thoroughbred**  
15.2hh to 17hh

**Paint Horse**  
15hh to 16hh

**Arabian**  
14hh to 15hh

**Haflinger**  
13.2hh to 15hh

**Welsh Pony**  
(Section A)  
Under 12.2hh

**Miniature Horse**  
Under 38 in.

# CONFIRMATION

- Refers to the shape or structure of a horse, and it can impact a horse's athletic ability
- Deviations from the ideal proportions of the horse's limbs and body and relationship of these parts to one another—can increase risk of injury and decrease performance ability

# LAME VS SOUND

- Lamé – an abnormal gait or stance of an animal that is the result of dysfunction of the locomotor system.
- Sound - has no lameness or illness.



- Head: Asymmetry in the face muscles can indicate a dental issue as can signs of teeth grinding.
- Neck and back: Run your hands along the horse's neck and back along its spine. Check for signs of swelling or inflammation. Does the horse have a limited range of motion along its neck, turning its head or raising it up or down?
- Legs: Run your hands down one leg, and then compare it to its opposite leg. If you notice any heat or swelling, those are classic signs of injury, but sensitivity to your touch is also an indicator of a problem.
- Hooves: Look for cracks in the hoof wall. Hooves should land evenly, not toe first or one side before the other. Horseshoes should also wear down evenly. Use hoof testers. Reactions at certain areas may point out problems like bruising or an abscess.

- Gait – the various ways in which a horse can move, either naturally or as a result of specialized training by humans.
- Trot – The trot, a two-beat gait involving diagonal pairs of legs.
- Canter – a controlled, three-beat gait that is usually a bit faster than the average trot, but slower than the gallop
- Gallop – 4 Beat, Extended canter gait. Race horse gait

- Near Side – Left Hand Side of the Horse
- Off Side – Right Hand Side of the Horse