

U:K COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE University of Kentucky – College of Agriculture Kentucky 4-H Horse Volunteer Certification Resource Kit



Horse Breeds Kentucky 4-H Horse Volunteer Certification Resource Kit

Donkey

Origin: Africa

Uses: Packing and pulling

Important Traits: Strong and hardy, highly intelligent

Size: Range from Miniature (under 38 inches) to 16 Hands

Description: A donkey has a long head with large eyes and extremely long ears. The neck is straight and short and the withers are nearly flat. The sparse mane is without forelock and upright. The tail is similar to a cow's with few long hairs. Donkeys will normally have five lumbar vertebrae, one less than a horse. Donkeys have a narrow chest and are flat-sided. The proportions of a donkey are different than those of a horse. Overall, the body of a donkey is more angular, especially over the hips, than a horse's body. Very strong hooves. Donkeys are fertile animals and can be crossed to horses to generate mules.

Color Pattern: Gray to brown is normal but they can be any basic horse color. Have dorsal stripes, shoulder crosses



Kentucky 4-H Horse Volunteer Certification Resource Kit



Horse Breeds Kentucky 4-H Horse Volunteer Certification Resource Kit