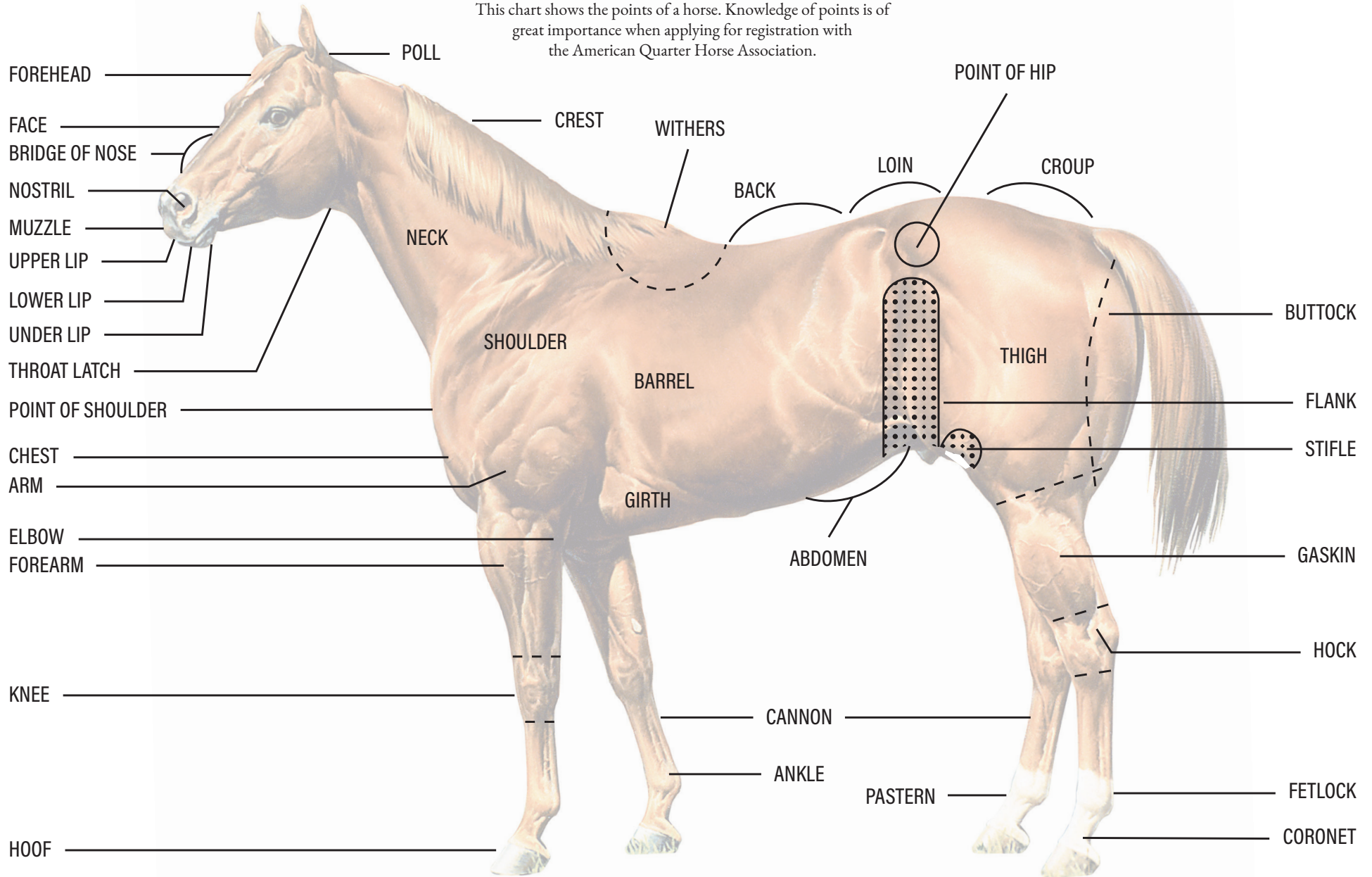


THE AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE

This chart shows the points of a horse. Knowledge of points is of great importance when applying for registration with the American Quarter Horse Association.



AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE

THE FOUNDATION OF AMERICA'S HORSE

The American Quarter Horse originated in the early 1600s and was used primarily for sprint racing. Its foundation bloodlines were a mix of Arab, Barb and Turk horses bred to English mares, which produced a compact, heavily muscled horse that could run short distances faster than any other horse. As the new country grew so did the American Quarter Horse, and it was adapted into more of a work horse, helping forge the way westward pulling wagons, herding cattle and exploring the wide-open plains.

Today the American Quarter Horse is known as “The World’s Most Versatile Horse” and its popularity has grown and now numbers nearly 7 million AQHA-registered horses worldwide. It is still used on ranches and racetracks, as well as having become the top equine athlete in rodeo timed events, plus performance events of reining, cutting and reined cow horse. Not just the star of the show ring, the American Quarter Horse is also well-suited for trail and casual riding.

Founded in 1940, the American Quarter Horse Association is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the American Quarter Horse and to providing owners and breeders a variety of services and information. The American Quarter Horse Youth Association (AQHYA) is for youth 18 years and under and offers a multitude of education, programs, events, contests and scholarship opportunities.



1600 Quarter Horse Drive
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CONFORMATION STANDARDS OF THE AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE

STANCE - The American Quarter Horse normally stands at ease with his legs well under him, which explains his ability to move quickly in any direction.

MOVEMENT - The American Quarter Horse is collected in movement enabling him to turn or stop with noticeable ease and balance, with his hocks always well under him.

HEAD - The head of an American Quarter Horse reflects alert intelligence. He has a short, broad head topped by small ears; kind wide-set eyes; large nostrils; short muzzle; and firm mouth. Well defined jaws give off an impression of strength.

NECK - The head of the American Quarter Horse joins the neck at a near 45-degree angle, with a distinct space between jawbone and neck muscles allowing him to work with his head down without restricting his breathing. The long neck blends into sloping shoulders.

SHOULDERS - The American Quarter Horse's long sloping shoulders connect with its prominent withers which allows for a long stride.

CHEST AND FORELEGS - As shown by his heart girth and wide-set forelegs, the American Quarter Horse is deep and broad chested. His smooth joints and short cannon bones are set on clean fetlocks, and medium length sloping pasterns are supported by healthy hooves. The powerfully muscled forearm tapers to the knee, whether viewed from the front or back.

BACK - The short back of the American Quarter Horse is full and powerful across the loin. The barrel is formed by deep, well sprung ribs which extend to the hip joints. The underline, or abdominal area, should rise cleanly to the flank.

HINDQUARTERS - Viewed from either side or the rear, the hindquarters are broad, deep and muscled fully through the thigh, stifle and gaskin down to the hock. The thickly muscled hind legs indicate the American Quarter Horse's great power and speed. When viewed from the rear, there is great width extending evenly from the top of the thigh to the gaskin. The hocks are wide set, deep and straight.

BONES, LEGS AND HOOVES - The flat, strong bones are free from fleshiness, puffs and injuries. The hooves are well-rounded with deep open heels.