

How to purchase a Miniature Horse

- General health
- Is the horse lively and active ?
 - If a foal is it playing in the field ?
 - Does the horse have a bright eye ?
 - Is the belly blown up ? (possible worm infection!)

- Conformation
- Legs : check for possible deformities
 - Movement - is it straight? fluid?
 - Dwarf characteristics – more common in very small horses

Teeth An even bite is necessary for both breeding and showing

UNLESS YOU ARE AN EXPERIENCED HORSE OWNER IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU HAVE THE HORSE EXAMINED BY A VET OF YOUR CHOICE. THIS WILL ENSURE THAT YOU PURCHASE A HEALTHY ANIMAL, BUT NOT NECESSARILY THAT IT IS A GOOD MINIATURE HORSE. IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO JUDGE WHAT MAKES A GOOD MINIATURE HORSE THEN IT IS BEST TO SEEK ADVICE FROM SOMEONE WHO DOES. TRY TO SEE AS MANY HORSES AS YOU CAN, A SHOW IS A GOOD PLACE TO DO THIS, AND TO MEET OTHER OWNERS AND BREEDERS.

Ancestry Can you see the parents? You have to imagine when buying a foal that it will end up looking like its parents once adult age is reached, and are you happy with that?

Paperwork Any real Miniature Horse needs a registration document of a recognized Miniature Studbook plus an EU passport. These documents should be in the name of the seller to be transferred directly into your name. The documents need to be updated in relation to the horse's age. If in any doubt check with the Studbook. If the horse is not already registered with the BMHS then it is best to check that it is eligible for registration, and if so at what cost.

Guarantees - Height: that the horse will not exceed 34 inches at adult age
- Testicles: that both testicles will be descended in the scrotum by four years of age.

IF EITHER ARE PROMISED ASK FOR A WRITTEN GUARANTEE

***A FINAL WORD OF WARNING – NEVER BUY A HORSE WITHOUT DOCUMENTS
EVERY HORSE MUST HAVE A PASSPORT TO LEAVE ITS PLACE OF BIRTH
EVERY MINIATURE HORSE MUST BE REGISTERED WITH A RECOGNISED
MINIATURE HORSE BREED STUDBOOK TO PROVE ITS PARENTAGE***