

Horse breeds!

Here at Redwings we have over 1,500 horses and ponies in our care and if there's one thing we're sure of, it's that they're all different! Horse breeds are confusing to get your head around and there are hundreds of variations but here are examples of some of the breeds we have at Redwings. You could even cut them out and test your friends!

Gelderlander



Gelderlanders were introduced when heavy horses were crossed with Thoroughbreds to create a horse strong enough to pull a carriage but with an elegant look. Most gelderlanders are chestnut but you can also get bay, black or grey.

Cob



Cobs are very common in the UK and can come in a variety of colours. Cobs have a friendly, easy to please nature.

Dartmoor



Dartmoor ponies come from the South West of England and are often very calm, making them a good first time pony. They are quite small and can be bay, brown, grey, chestnut or roan.

Friesian



Friesian horses originate from the Netherlands and are an ancient breed. They are always black in colour and are usually at least 15hh. Friesians are known for their lovable character and easy temperament.

Arab



Arabs are often referred to as the most beautiful breed as they have a slim frame, long neck and a silky mane. They are also naturally good at endurance sport as they have muscular long legs and flared nostrils, which makes it easier for them to breathe. They are most often grey, bay, black or chestnut.

Suffolk Punch



Suffolk Punch horses are very rare and are England's oldest draught breed. They are incredibly strong and are always chestnut, although, when we are referring to this breed it's spelt 'chesnut'.

Shire



Shire horses are native to England and were bred to be very strong so they were able to pull heavy carts. They are very tall and are probably the heaviest breed, weighing about a tonne. Shires are often known as 'gentle giants' because of their docile nature.

Shetland



Shetland ponies are the smallest breed and originate from Scotland. They were traditionally used in coal mines to pull trucks. They have a rounded body, short legs and thick coat. These characteristics help them to cope with the cold weather and harsh landscape.

Connemara



Connemara is an Irish breed that is usually grey in colour. This breed is hardy and adapts to harsh environments. Its build makes it great at jumping so along with its patient nature it is an ideal family pony.

This sheet covers just some of the many horse breeds that exist. Here are some other interesting breeds that you might want to look up: Clydesdale, Irish Draught, Dales, Exmoor, Fjord, Haflinger and Konik.

Thoroughbred



Thoroughbreds are native to England and were bred to be the fastest horses in the world so they could be used as racehorses. They are very light and fast with lots of muscle and very elegant long legs. They are very brave but can also be quite excitable.

Welsh

Welsh ponies come in one of four types, section A, B, C, or D according to their height and build. Section A or the Welsh Mountain pony is the smallest, they grow no bigger than 12hh and they are recognised as a vulnerable breed because they are becoming increasingly rare. Section D is the largest type, growing up to 15hh and known for being very sturdy and yet elegant.



Section A



Section B



Section C



Section D

YOUNG REDS

Now that you have started to get your head round horse breeds, why not also read about horse colours and markings?! We also have information on creepy critters, the five freedoms, horse talk and loads more. All of this, along with ideas on how to fundraise for Redwings, fun horsey crafts and colouring in can all be found at www.youngredwings.co.uk.