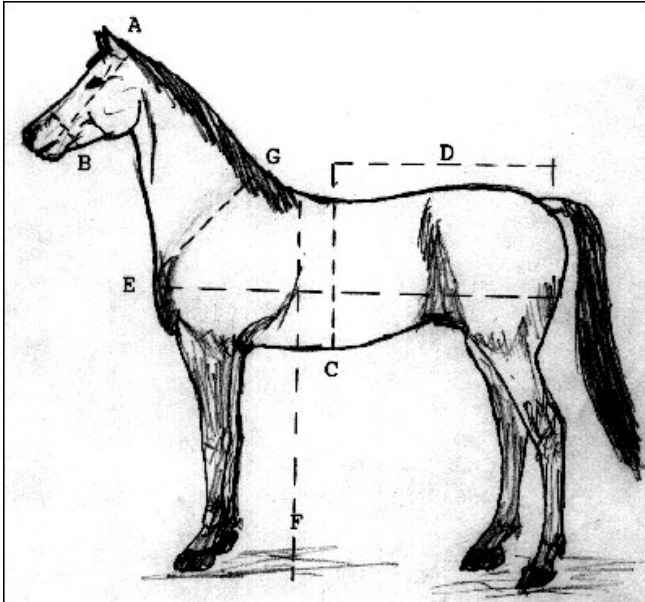


How to find a Horse or Pony's Height



When you measure a horse or pony, it's from the ground to the withers and is measured in hands.

How much is a hand?

One hand is equal to 4 inches.

Horses were originally measured by the width of a person's hand which was approximately 4 inches, and by placing one hand on the ground, the other above it and moving the first hand over the second, the horse could be measured.

Hands high" or "hh" are the terms used. Often the height is just over a number of hands eg 16 hands and 2 inches and the height is referred to as 16.2 hh.

Small ponies are often measured in centimetres.

For the most accurate measurement, make sure your horse or pony is standing squarely on solid ground. Measuring sticks are the best way of measuring a horse, as the tape measures available in hands aren't always held straight. These measuring sticks consist of a large wooden "ruler" marked out in hands with another piece of wood at right angles which can be lowered to sit on the horse or pony's withers ensuring an accurate reading