

The Arabian Horse

A COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE MOST VERSATILE HORSE BREED IN THE WORLD



W. L. G. 2010

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Welcome to the heritage of the Arabian horse. Where the beauty, athleticism, and heart of the oldest pure breed of horse in the world comes to life.

Whether you are a show enthusiast, an active trail or distance rider or simply enjoy spending time with horses, the Arabian is perfect for every discipline, age, and adventure. Comprised of youth and adult members from all around North America, the Arabian Horse Association (AHA) provides opportunities to become a part of the Arabian horse lifestyle. AHA is a full-service breed association and registry. We offer a variety of activities, programs, competitions, and opportunities for you to explore. We are happy to welcome you to the Arabian horse Community!

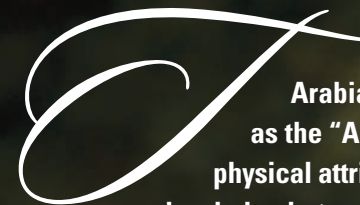




Hannah
Graughan
2018

THE OLDEST PURE BREED OF HORSE IN THE WORLD

- Foundation horse whose blood is found in nearly every light horse breed known today.
- Average weight is 1,000 pounds and height is between 14.2 and 15.2 hands (one hand = four inches) at the withers.
- Intelligent, easy to train, enjoys human companionship.
- Comes in four colors: bay, grey, chestnut and black.
- Excels at Endurance racing. Top racers complete 100-mile races in less than 10 hours. The American Endurance Ride Conference, the official governing body for the sport in North America, estimates that well over 75 percent of their members ride only Arabian horses.
- Innate ability to bond with humans as a result of centuries of breeding for a horse that was both courageous in battle yet gentle enough to share the family tent.
- The popularization of Arabian horses in the United States began with the introduction of 45 Arabian horses from Turkey at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893.



The physical appearance of the Arabian horse is unique and referred to as the "Arabian Type". It stems from the physical attributes shown at right. The "jibbah," is a bulge between the eyes that gives the breed an iconic dished or concave face. They are also known for their large, dark, expressive eyes set wide apart, an arched neck and defined throat latch, high tail carriage, and light and elegant movement. Their short, dished head and flaring nostrils allow for maximum oxygen intake. Long eyelashes protect their eyes from sun, wind and sand that the deserts they were bred in are known for. A long, arched neck kept the windpipe defined and clear to carry air to the lungs over long, treacherous journeys. Well-sprung ribs and a deep chest cavity left plenty of room for their lungs. A short back provided strength under saddle over long distances. Dense bone provided strong resilient legs. Large, round hooves helped navigation on sand. They were built for endurance, agility, and elegance.



Brandy

Brandy

HISTORY OF *The Arabian Horse Breed*



DESERT BEGINNING

Arabian horses are an ancient breed. Between 25,000 and 40,000 years ago, the Arabian Type was clearly illustrated on cave walls. Many scholars and breeders agree that the modern Arabian horse is the same as its ancestors from thousands of years ago.

The first and most famous Arabian horse breeders were Bedouins, nomadic tribesmen that roamed the vast deserts of the Middle East. Breeding good horses was crucial for their survival and prosperity. Only the finest horses could reproduce. Breeders concentrated on performance, selectively breeding certain bloodlines for stamina, soundness, speed, disposition and loyalty. They kept strict oral histories of pedigrees that were passed down from one generation to the next. Bedouins prized mares (female horses) above all possessions. They carried their masters into battle with courage and pride. When riders met their end, they stood loyally by the fallen, leaving only when forcibly led away.

No greater gift could be given than an Arabian mare. In fact, we still track Arabian bloodlines through mares, or dams today! Mare families (bloodlines) were often named to represent the sheik or tribe that bred them.

Some sheiks would maintain a herd of milking camels along with their horses to provide their mares nourishment. Horses were fed fresh camel's milk and dates. Loyal bonds of friendship developed between master and horse that gave the Arabian breed their desire for human companionship. They became beloved members of their nomadic families, gentle enough to share the desert tent. This love and partnership between people and their Arabian horses is still alive and well today!

CAREFUL BREEDING

The Bedouins paid careful attention to breeding only the best to the best, and worked to keep the breed pure. However, as the world became more connected the Arabian bloodlines were used by other cultures to



Brandy

The Arabian horse's physical attributes result from its desert heritage, making it both athletic and beautiful.



strengthen their own breeds of horses. In fact most modern breeds such as the American Quarter Horse, American Saddlebred, Appaloosa and Morgan have been crossed with the Arabian horse.

The reputation of the Arabian horse's legendary strength, loyalty, and beauty spread. In the 1700s, three Arabian stallions were imported to England and bred with Royal mares imported by Charles II. The resultant offspring became the foundation stock for the Thoroughbred breed. Over 98 percent of all modern Thoroughbred pedigrees trace back to two of these stallions. The intermingling of the Arabian and Thoroughbred breed was so pervasive that the American Jockey Club continued to accept purebred Arabian horses in its studbook until 1943.

The breed came to the United States with the introduction of 45 Arabian horses from Turkey at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. Then in 1906, Homer Davenport imported 27 more Arabians – which led to the establishment of the Arabian Horse Club of America two years later in 1908. In 1909 the first stud book was published cataloging 71 horses.

UNIQUE BLOODLINES

Unlike many breeds that originated in the United States, the Arabian horse is centuries old and known world-wide. From the late 1800s through the 1930s, breeders spanning the globe imported stallions and mares from Middle Eastern countries to develop strong national Arabian horse breeding programs.

Consequently, Arabian bloodlines became more diverse. One example of this is the Crabbet Arabian Stud or Crabbet Park Stud Estate. Owner Anne Blunt imported the best Arabian horses to England from Syria, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia and bred them to create a superior racehorse. Her horses have influenced breeding programs in Australia, Holland, Spain, Poland, Russia, and the United States. Horses with the names Raffles, Serafix, and Skowronek in their pedigrees trace back to the Crabbet Stud.



SPAIN



A band of Spain's government-owned horses and purebred Arabians imported from Poland, the Middle East, England, France and Argentina, formed the basis for the Spanish Arabian. The military used their mare band primarily to produce top stallions, leaving private breeders the task of producing good mares. The small number of horses in Spain and stringent culling left the Spanish Arabian with a concentrated gene pool that's exceptionally prepotent when outcrossed.

POLAND



As time went on, Poland exported Arabians to the United States and have continued to do so since the end of World War I. The biggest influx to date came in the 1960s. Bask was one of the most remarkable sires to come to the United States from Poland, winning National Championships in Stallion Halter and Park and siring numerous horses with his great beauty and ability.

EGYPT



Mohammed Ali the Great, founder of modern Egypt in the 1800s, established one of the world's greatest Arabian stud farms with horses imported from Arabia. His descendant Abbas Pasha, the Viceroy of Egypt, built up a herd to more than 1,000 purebred Arabian horses. To qualify as a straight Egyptian horse today requires tracing lineage back to the Arabian Desert or to the horses of Abbas Pasha.

Until the early 1900s, breeding was the domain of the royal family. However, the Egyptian Agricultural Organization now oversees the breeding,

importation, and exportation of horses. The Pyramid Society in the United States, founded in 1970, pursues the preservation of this valuable pool of genetic bloodstock. The Egyptian Event, (an event held every year by the Pyramid Society) celebrates the Egyptian Arabian horse with a show, social gatherings, and seminars.

RUSSIA



Although Arabians have existed in Russia as far back as the 17th century, actual breeding programs at the government owned Tersk Stud began in 1944. Horses were imported from France, England, Poland and Germany, with specimens selected on the basis of athletic ability and beauty. Russian horses are noted for their strong, balanced movement and classic conformation. Famous Russian imports to the United States include *Muscat, *Marsianin and *Padron.

UNITED STATES



In the United States, the term "Domestic" refers to horses born of animals that have lived in this country for two generations whose lineage is not maintained as "straight" or "pure" in any direction. Famous Domestic stallions include Ferzon, Fadjur, Khemosabi++++, Abu Farwa and The Real McCoy. Delving into bloodlines is a passion of many owners who become captivated with the romantic history of their own Arabian horses. The Arabian breed has endured through wars, political regime changes and geographical holocausts and holds the wisdom of the ages deep in its soul. To some, the horse stands as a piece of living history, honed to perfection through centuries of selective breeding.

ARABIAN HORSES AT A GLANCE

THE MODERN ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION

The tradition of upgrading any breed with the infusion of Arabian blood has occurred throughout history and still thrives. In the 1920s, the United States Army added Arabian horses to its breeding program because they proved more durable than the Thoroughbred over long distances. When the Army discontinued its cavalry after World War II, they sold the Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian registries to what is now the Arabian Horse Association. To qualify for registration with Arabian Horse Association (AHA) as a Half-Arabian, a horse must have one registered purebred Arabian parent. The other parent may be a Half-Arabian, grade (non-registered) or purebred horse of another breed.

CUSTOMIZED HALF-ARABIAN HORSE

Each Half-Arabian is a unique, one-of-a-kind individual. Many color breed owners crossed their horses with Arabians to incorporate the color attributes of pintos, buckskins, palominos or appaloosas with the Arabian breed. These Half-Arabians can be double registered to compete in championship shows with both AHA and their respective color breed registries. You can pair an Arabian with many breeds and get a horse with improved lung capacity and soundness.

Crossing Arabians with stock-type horses produces a strong horse that is lightweight and easy to maneuver. Outlasting a heavier horse, the more nimble Half-Arabian can work cattle all day, surpassing the stamina of larger breeds.

Saddle seat riders find animation and style in horses produced for English classes from trotting breeds such as the American Saddlebred, Hackney or Morgan horse.

Along with the purebred Arabian, the Half-Arabian makes an excellent horse for endurance, competitive trail, mounted orienteering or ride & tie. In fact, The American Endurance Ride Conference, the official governing body for the sport in North America, estimates that well over 75 percent of their members ride only Arabian horses. You can find a Half-Arabian that fits in perfectly with your family and price range. If you need a babysitter for kids or beginners or a National Champion prospect, there are many Half-Arabians available.

ARISTOCRATIC ANGLO-ARABIAN

The Anglo-Arabian originated in England, birthplace of the Thoroughbred and a country known for its appreciation of fine horses. During conquests by the British Empire, Arabian horses found their way to English shores as highly prized spoils of war. By the end of the 18th century, the Thoroughbred had its own identity as a breed, and the first studbooks included pedigrees and records of foundation horses, many of which were Arabians. In the 20th century, the Arabian/Thoroughbred connection continued through the Army Remount service of Washington D.C. which set up depots to breed and issue horses for the military. They maintained Half-Thoroughbred studbooks, adding Half-Arabians in 1941. The breed combines the courage and work ethic of the Arabian with Thoroughbred size and speed. A horse may be any combination of Arabian and Thoroughbred blood with no less than 25 nor more than 75 percent of either breed. For the Hunter/Jumper and Eventing disciplines, the Anglo-Arabian has the size for long extensions and maneuvers easily. The breed also has the intelligence and temperament for Dressage.

Whether it's a world-class endurance race over 100 mountainous miles, a fox hunt through the hills, or competing in a show ring, Anglo-Arabians love a physical challenge. For anyone who wants a recreational horse with performance potential, the Anglo-Arabian gives active riders a high quality horse for everyday riding.

Refined and beautiful physical appearance called "Arabian type" that stems from its "jibbah," a bulge between the eyes that gives the breed a dished or concave face; large, dark, expressive eyes set wide apart; arched neck with clean throat latch; high tail carriage; light, elegant way of moving. Its short, dished head and flaring nostrils allowed maximum oxygen intake. Long eyelashes protected eyes from sun, wind and sand. A long, arched neck kept the windpipe defined and clear to carry air to the lungs. Well-sprung ribs and a deep chest cavity left plenty of room for lung expansion.

A short back provided strength under saddle over long distances. Dense bone provided strong resilient legs. Large, round hooves helped navigation on sand.

Short Dished Head

Arched Neck

Large, Flaring Nostrils

Large, Dark Eyes

Short Back

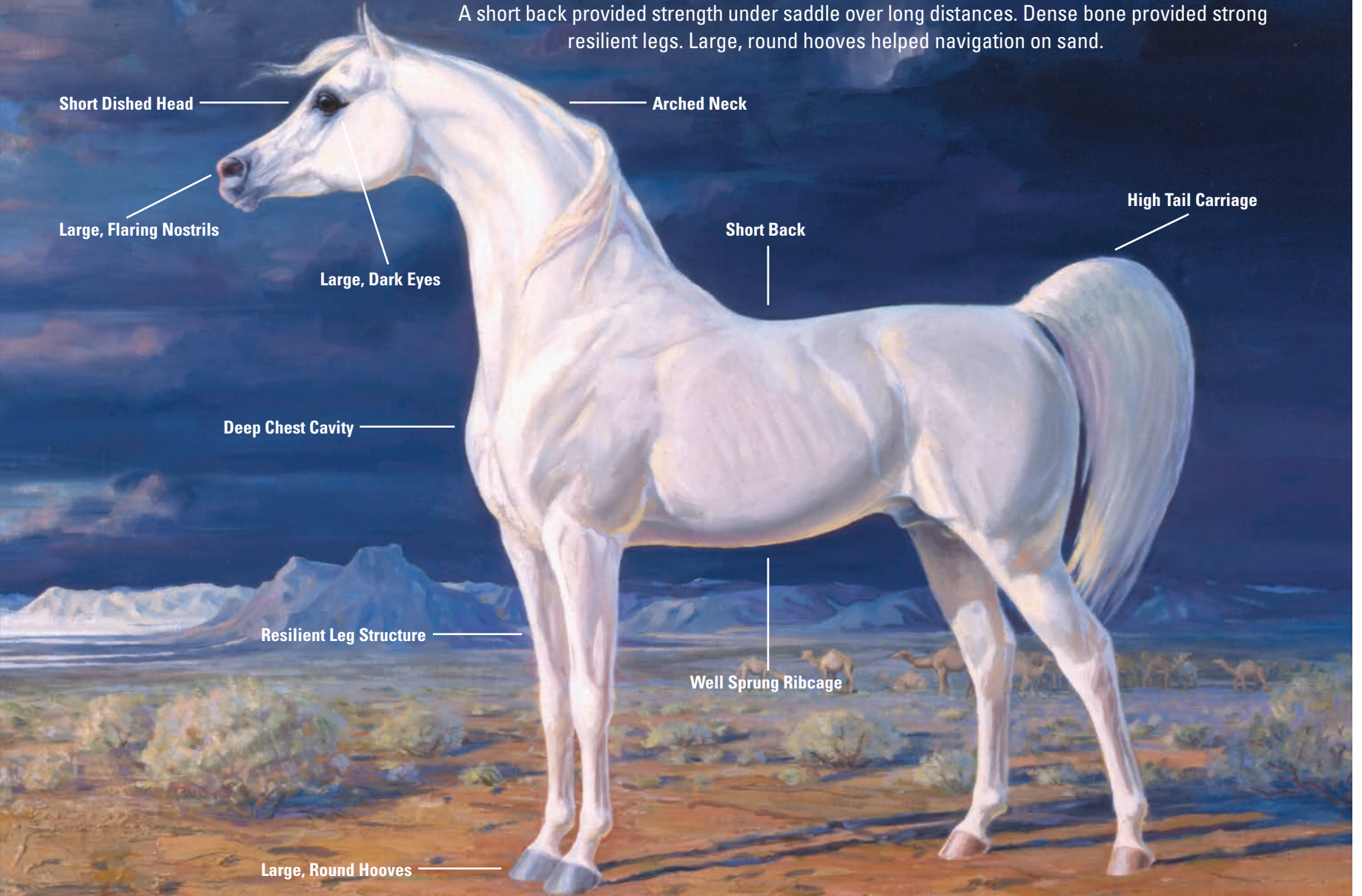
High Tail Carriage

Deep Chest Cavity

Resilient Leg Structure

Well Sprung Ribcage

Large, Round Hooves



GLADYS
BROWN
EDWARDS
1972

A DEEP CONNECTION

The connection between horse and rider is unparalleled. You have a companion. When you are around a horse you are never without trust, strength, community, loyalty, and friendship. There are many breeds to choose from, but there is only one original — the Arabian horse. Becoming a part of this ancient heritage is simple. If you have love for the breed they will love you back.

Getting involved with horses provides a new community for adults and children alike. Through learning basic horsemanship and safety, we develop life skills. We take pride in our accomplishments, especially as we improve and advance. We find great support from our barn mates as we participate in activities that share in our love for horses. There's no limit to the personal and competitive goals one can achieve once they decide to get involved with Arabian horses.



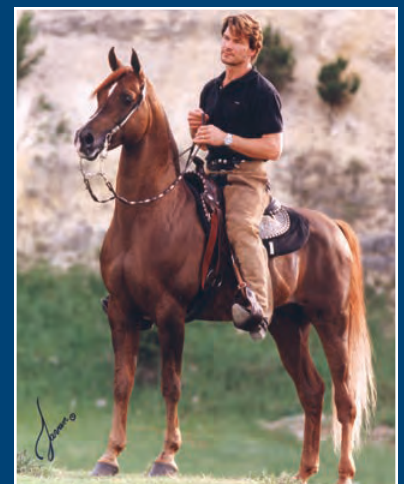
ARABIAN HORSE FUN FACTS



- Arabians generally live longer than other breeds, many well past 30 years!
- There are no purebred Arabians that are Palomino or Buckskin. Black Arabians are very rare.
- The mascot for the Denver Broncos is an Arabian named **Thunder**, who was born and raised in Colorado.
- The horse in the movie “**The Black Stallion**” was an Arabian named Cass Ole (Al-Marah Cassanova x La Bahia). He was bred in Texas by Donoghue Arabians.
- Arabian horses are World Champions in **Endurance** disciplines. They are built for the challenge.



Did you know that Lady Gaga, Wayne Newton, William Shatner and Patrick Swayze have all owned Arabian horses?



Arabian Horse Legends

THE FOUNDATION FIVE *Muhammad is said to have chosen his foundation mares by a test of their courage and loyalty. It is stated that he set his herd loose after a long journey through the desert so they could get a drink of water at an Oasis. He called them back before reaching the water and only 5 mares returned without drinking; these mares were called Al Khamsa and became the legendary founders of the five "strains" of the Arabian horse.*

DRINKER OF THE WIND *Jibril (also known as the Angel Gabriel), descended from Heaven and awakened Ishmael with a wind spout that whirled toward him. Gabriel commanded the thunder-cloud to stop scattering dust and rain, so it gathered itself into a prancing handsome creature, a horse, which seemed to swallow up the group. This is where the Bedouins branded the title "Drinker of the Wind" to the first Arabian horse.*

THE BLOODY SHOULDER *Often appearing as a dark or red marking, the Bloody Shoulder is a prized and rare mark that crosses the shoulder of some grey Arabian horses. It is stated that a powerful Sheik rode his milk-white mare in the desert and through unfortunate circumstances found a rival chieftain and engaged in battle. Both men fought hard and the Sheik was left with severe wounds causing dark red blood to pour out; he was placed on his mare's back and the Sheik's blood flowed down the mare's silky shoulder and flank to the ground. The mare walked home slowly and carefully for a day and night picking her way delicately so as not to disturb the balance of her beloved master from her back. Once she arrived back to camp the master's wounds proved to be too severe and once lifted down his followers realized he had perished. That night the mare foaled a colt with the same marking as the master's blood on the mare's shoulder and it is stated that the Sheik arranged with the gods that his mare's dedication should be commended so that forever after, any descendant of hers who was possessed of outstanding courage or ability would bear the blood stains as a mark of honor.*



NATIVE COSTUME

The attire for this class is based on the traditional garments of the Bedouins from the Arabian Peninsula and the Middle East. The horses in this class should be capable of conveying the Bedouin charging over the desert sands effect.

- Kuffieyah – *square-shaped cloth folded diagonally and placed over the head with the fold to the front like a scarf*
- Ighal – *placed over the head like a crown to hold the kuffieyah in place*
- Aba – *cloak or robe, traditionally a simple design*
- Trousers – *can be tapered or pantaloons type with various decorations*
- Slip Cover – *saddle cover with slot for the stirrups*
- Croup Cover – *lays over the horses hindquarters*



Howard Schatzberg



Brandy



Nancy Pierce



Kim Hatto

Arabians

THE PERFECT HORSE FOR EVERY



Cat McKenna



Danny Thompson



Nancy Pierce



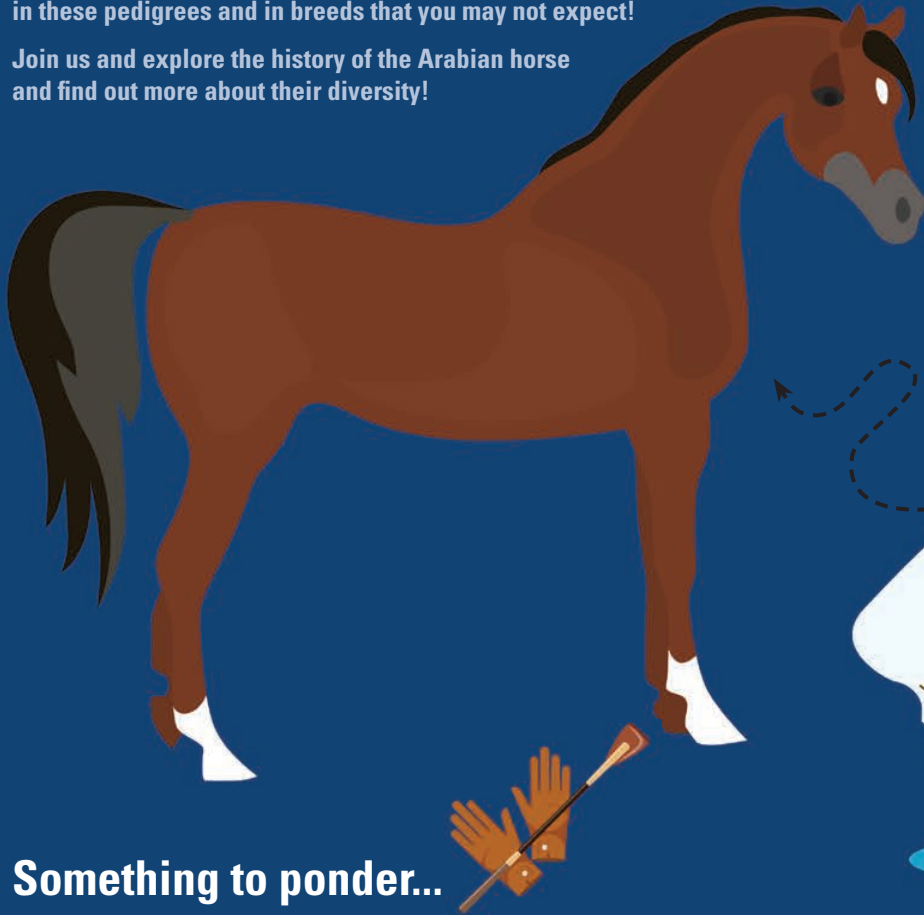
Lindsay Williams

ADVENTURE

THE GLOBAL INFLUENCE OF THE *Arabian Horse*

Arabian horses are a classic breed. In fact, they are one of the first pure breeds to exist and amazingly are still bred today. Because of their ancient heritage, Arabians became the foundation of many other modern horse breeds. In the 20th century Registries formed that tracked and documented the pedigrees of horses being born. Arabian horses often appeared in these pedigrees and in breeds that you may not expect!

Join us and explore the history of the Arabian horse and find out more about their diversity!



Something to ponder...

Some of the more familiar modern breeds of horse that the Arabian has influenced are the Quarter Horse, Pony of the Americas, Appaloosa, Saddlebred, Standardbred, Morgan, Tennessee Walking Horse, Hackney Pony, Trakhener and even the draft horse breed, the Percheron!



THE FOUNDATION HORSE

The exact beginning of the Arabian breed is not fully known, but some things are certain. Arabian horses trace back to the desert regions of the Arabian Peninsula. These desert climates are extreme, but the Bedouin tribes who lived there knew how to adapt and one thing they could not live without was the Arabian horse. Horses were carefully bred, prized possessions with very important jobs. So, the Bedouins worked hard to keep the bloodlines pure and strong.



COMING TO THE NEW WORLD

In 1725, Nathan Harrison imported the first Arabian horse to Virginia who sired over 300 foals out of local mares. Arabian horses continue to be imported to the United States throughout the Civil War.





1st CENTURY A.D.

As the world changed and the Romans expanded their empire, the Arabian traveled from the Arabian Peninsula, across Western Europe and into Great Britain, where they were crossed with Celtic ponies and other breeds. This created breeds like Welsh Mountain Ponies.

The modern Thoroughbred horse traces back to three Arabian foundation stallions imported to England at the turn of the 18th century — the **Darley Arabian**, the **Godolphin Arabian** and the **Byerly Turk**. They were bred to native mares, which resulted in a horse that could carry weight with sustained speed over extended distances.



16th - 18th CENTURY A.D.

As time went on the need for a heavy war horse declined, and the art of Classical Dressage was rediscovered. It became a cultural part of the elite and wealthy throughout Europe. Heads of state and affluent gentlemen began to import Arabians. However, this time they were not only bred for their athletic ability but also for their light and elegant nature. The Arabian bloodline spread again for sport and pleasure horses and crossed with native breeds to create the thoroughbred and Lipizzan.

19th - 20th CENTURY A.D.

The Arabian breed continued to diversify in the 19th and 20th centuries. Arabians were bred for endurance, strength, and fortitude creating Sport Breeds like the Trakehner.



8th - 13th CENTURY A.D.

In the 8th -13th century religions were spreading across the globe. Muslims brought the message of Islam across the west and the Arabian horse came with it. They were introduced to North Africa, Spain, and France. Crusading knights from all over Europe were impressed with the swift, tough Arabian and imported large numbers of horses into England and France. They bred Arabians with their domestic breeds to improve the athleticism of their native horses for battle.



SHOWING YOUR ARABIAN HORSE



THE ARABIAN SHOW HORSE — A BRIEF HISTORY

From the ancient deserts of the Middle East evolved the oldest known breed of riding horse, the Arabian. Now one of the most popular breeds in America, the Arabian's incredible energy, intelligence and gentle disposition allow riders to excel in most equine sports and activities. Today, Arabian horses spend as much time on the trail as they do at horse shows and other competitive events.

Historically, the Arabian was a war horse capable of withstanding the extreme conditions of the Arabian Desert and covering long distances, while moving quickly in and out of battle.

The traits that were bred into the Arabian through ancient times created a versatile horse that is not only a beautiful breed, but one that excels at many activities.

In the show ring, the Arabian is exceptional in English and Western pleasure competition. The Arabian is well known for his balance and agility. Combined with his high intelligence and skillful footwork, he is more than capable in driving and reining events. For speed, agility and gracefulness, you'll want an Arabian.

There are more than 320 Arabian shows as well as numerous open shows around the U.S and Canada that Arabian horses can compete at. The following pages offer explanations of what you'll see at a typical Arabian horse show.

Sharing the anticipation, hard work and exhilaration that comes with putting a number on your back and taking your horse into the arena to prove yourself against other horsemen provides a lifetime of satisfaction.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
Katie Feighner



AHA RECOGNIZED COMPETITIONS

- Arabian Breed Shows
- Open Shows
- Distance Rides

AHA SHOWS

- Youth Nationals
- Canadian Nationals
- Sport Horse Nationals
- U.S. Nationals
- Distance Nationals
- **NEW!** Ranch Horse Championships

ARABIAN HORSE DISCIPLINES

ENGLISH PLEASURE

English Pleasure horses give a distinct appearance of being enjoyable to ride and display a pleasing attitude. They are ridden in informal saddle seat attire at the walk, trot, canter and hand gallop.

COUNTRY ENGLISH PLEASURE

The horse's appearance of being a pleasure to ride at the walk, trot, strong trot, canter and hand gallop with a quiet, responsive mouth is imperative in this class. All gaits must be performed with willingness, cadence, balance and smoothness.

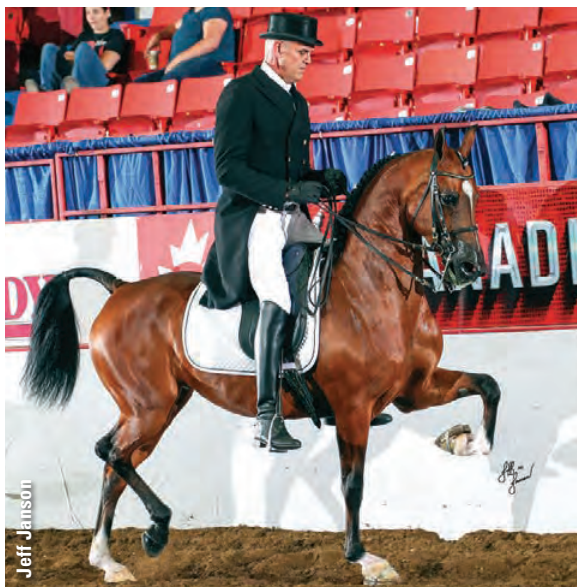
HUNTER PLEASURE

This is a pleasure class for the horse that can cover the ground easily and with a long, low, efficient stride, while wearing hunter style tack. Hunter Pleasure is one of the most popular styles of riding.

WESTERN PLEASURE

Horses wear stock type saddles and a standard western type bridle and bit. Riders wear western hats, long sleeved shirts with collars and scarves or ties. The horses are shown at a flat footed, ground covering walk, jog, and lope.





Jeff Janson

ENGLISH SHOW HACK

The English Show Hack horse is balanced, shows animation, presence, has clean fine limbs and supreme quality, all while demonstrating the Arabian's elegance and versatility. They are ridden at a variety of different gaits.

PARK HORSE

Park horses are shown at the walk, Park trot and canter. The Park horses' gaits are distinguished by an animated motion. These horses hold their heads high and their legs reach with every stride. Like the English Pleasure horse, the Park horse is high energy.



Jeff Janson

LADIES SIDE SADDLE

A Ladies Side Saddle class harkens back to the days when proper ladies did not ride astride. Horses may be shown in English or Western tack and attire. Period attire is accepted and encouraged.

MOUNTED NATIVE COSTUME

Mounted Native Costume horses are shown at a walk, canter and hand gallop. Both horse and rider move with speed, accuracy, and alertness. The rider's attire is of native, Bedouin type. Flowing capes, coats, pantaloons, head dresses, scarfs, sashes and any other decoration in keeping with colorful desert regalia are allowed. Horses tack is adorned with Bedouin details as well.



Howard Schatzberg



Although the most beautiful of all riding breeds, the Arabian is not just a pretty horse. (S)He is an all-around family horse, show horse, competitive sport horse and work horse.



Katie Feighner

DRESSAGE

Today Dressage is both an equine discipline and a training method to prepare the horse for other equine sports. Dressage riders compete in a 20x60 meter arena, performing a pattern of required movements at specific letter points set along the rail. Nine levels of increasing difficulty require a higher degree of physical and mental development with tests at each level.

WESTERN DRESSAGE

A Western Dressage horse achieves balance, physical strength and flexibility by using the principles of classical Dressage training while emphasizing the lightness and harmony with the rider which is a hallmark of a Western Dressage horse.

BREEDING / IN-HAND

Arabian Halter horses are shown at Halter in a light headstall or halter with throatlatch. The horses are presented to the judges in-hand at a walk and trot. Horse are judged on type, quality, balance, substance at the walk, legs and feet, head, neck and shoulder, back, loin and hip, and movement.





PLEASURE DRIVING

Pleasure Driving horses are shown in a light show harness with blinkers, overcheck or side check. Either a two- or four-wheeled vehicle may be used. They are shown at a brisk, flat footed four beat walk, a balanced and free moving normal trot and a cadenced strong trot.

CARRIAGE DRIVING

In the Driving division an entry is defined as the combination of the horse(s), vehicle and driver. A variety of vehicles are allowed in these classes, and the rules encourage drivers to strive "to present an appropriate turnout, factoring in compatible size, type and weight of horse and vehicle."

RACING

Arabian Racing in North America was organized about 1959 and has more than quadrupled in size over the past 10 years. Today's Arabian racehorse has many advantages and opportunities. It runs against other purebred Arabians at a growing number of racetracks across the United States and Canada.

DISTANCE RIDING

Distance Riding tests a horse's condition and stamina, rider intelligence and horsemanship under veterinary supervision on a cross-country trail. Competitive Trail and Endurance are the two most popular Distance sports, and Arabians excel at both. The Endurance competitor's motto, "To Finish Is To Win," applies to all types of Distance events.



HUNTER/JUMPER DIVISION

HUNTER HACK

Exhibitors walk, trot, canter and gallop and then jump two obstacles. The class is judged on performance, manners and soundness in that order. Judges look for a horse that has good, ground-covering balanced gaits.

WORKING HUNTER

Good Working Hunters must not only be able to clear fences with ease, but they must jump in a fluid, forward manner. Judges look for horses that maintain an even pace around the course, spring well off their hindquarters, tuck their front legs and arc nicely over the jumps.

JUMPER

Jumpers are evaluated only on their ability to jump a clean round, or pick up as few penalty points as possible, within a specified time limit. As a result, both horse and rider may be more aggressive and speedier in tackling fences, since in the final jump-off the horse with the fastest time and fewest penalties wins.



Enjoy the anticipation and exhilaration that comes with taking your horse into the arena to compete against other horsemen and women.

SPORT HORSE DIVISION

United States Equestrian Federation rules state that the purpose of the Sport Horse Section is “to evaluate and encourage the breeding of Arabian and Half-Arabian/ Anglo-Arabian horses suitable for Dressage, Working Hunter, Eventing, Jumper, Combined Driving and Competitive Trail and Endurance, and to provide an opportunity to demonstrate the effectiveness of breeding programs. Form to function will be emphasized.”

SPORT HORSE IN-HAND

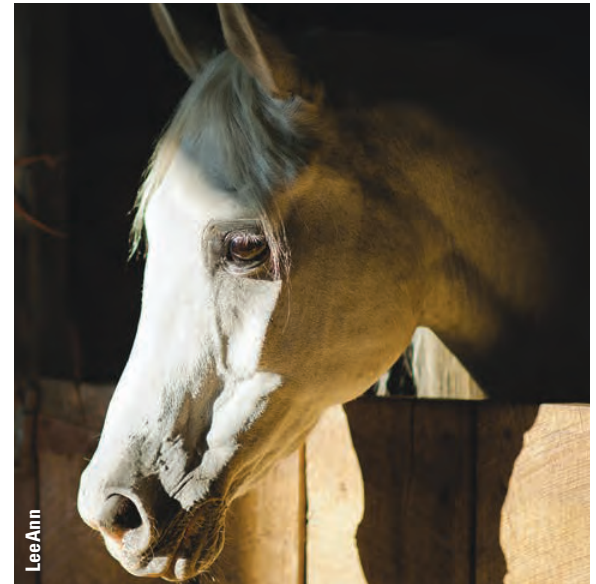
These classes evaluate a horse’s suitability as a sport horse according to movement, conformation and general impression.

SPORT HORSE UNDER SADDLE

Horses are shown as a group at the walk, trot, canter and hand gallop both directions of the ring, and must stand quietly and back readily.

SPORT HORSE SHOW HACK

This elegant class is essentially a Dressage class on the rail, emphasizing straightness, elasticity and balanced rhythm at 10 gaits and transitions.



The energy to keep up, people-pleasing personality and a sensitive nature are qualities that make the Arabian horse a fitting companion.

REINING

Reining horses perform a prescribed pattern of spins, circles, lead changes, runs and stops. Stops require the horse to bring its hind feet and hocks under the horse and slide on the rear shoes. Circles are maneuvers at the lope to demonstrate control with little or no resistance.

REINED COW HORSE

Horses are asked to work a single live cow in an arena, performing certain maneuvers that include circling the cow and turning it in a specified manner, as well as performing a reining pattern.

CUTTING

Cutting horses are athletic, with a lot of “cow sense”. They boldly enter a herd of cows to cut one (separating one from the rest of the herd) and do movements to keep the cow from returning to the herd for a set number of seconds.

WORKING COW HORSE

Working Cow Horse classes are designated to demonstrate the horse’s ability to hold, contain and work a cow. Penalties will be counted for losing a working advantage with the cow, passing the cow, losing control of the cow, biting or striking the cow and knocking the cow down.





TRAIL

In this class, you will see natural obstacles set in the arena simulating actual trail hazards. A good trail horse is skillful, eye appealing, confident, and gives the impression of being sure and a pleasure to ride over a course of hindrances. A trail horse is shown over and through obstructions at a walk, jog and lope.

RANCH RIDING

The purpose of the Ranch Riding class is to measure the ability of the horse to be a pleasure to ride while being used as a means of conveyance from performing one ranch task to another. The horse should reflect the versatility, attitude and movement of a working ranch horse riding outside the confines of an arena.

SHOWMANSHIP

In this class, handlers exhibit their showmanship and presentation skills. Ideally this showman's performance consists of a poised, confident, appropriately attired exhibitor leading a well-groomed and conditioned horse that quickly and efficiently performs the requested pattern with promptness and precision.

EQUITATION

Equitation classes span a variety of disciplines and riders are judged primarily on their riding skill and style. Riders are expected to be good matches with their horses and ride in an effective and beautiful manner.



ARABIAN HORSE ACTIVITIES



BARREL RACING

Barrel racing is a rodeo event in which a horse and rider attempt to run a cloverleaf pattern around preset barrels in the fastest time. It is an intense sport where the winner is determined by just thousandths of a second. Just one minor error can be the deciding factor for a win or loss.

MOUNTED SHOOTING

Cowboy mounted shooting is a competitive equestrian sport involving the riding of a horse to negotiate a shooting pattern. It can be based on the historical reenactment of historic shooting events held at Wild West shows in the late 19th century.



GYMKHANA

Gymkhana is an equestrian event consisting of speed pattern racing and timed games for riders on horses. These events often emphasize children's participation and may be organized by a recognized Saddle Club or a 4-H club.

RODEO ROYALTY

Being a rodeo queen requires skills in western style horse riding, public speaking, rodeo knowledge, appearance, and personality. Their time is spent representing the title at various rodeos, parades, public events, television and radio interviews, as well as school and charity events.



AHA MEMBERSHIP

BECOME A MEMBER OF AHA

Become a part of the Arabian Horse Association and connect with a community around the shared love of the breed. Whether you are competing in shows, riding at events, or enjoying your horse at the barn — we have something for everyone. To view member perks and discounts visit us at www.ArabianHorses.org. You can also check out the Arabian Horse Association App in your Apple or GooglePlay store. Tune in to tales of industry professionals and personal experience with our podcast *The Arabian Horse Connection* anywhere you find your listening material.

BECOME A MEMBER OF AHYA

Connect with a network of kids and teens from coast to coast by joining the Arabian Horse Youth Association (AHYA). You don't need to own a horse to join! There are horse clubs across the United States and Canada who are ready to welcome new members. Visit our website ArabianHorses.org and explore the Youth tab.

Through learning basic horsemanship and safety, children develop life skills. They work with mentors and horsemen who guide their progress in riding and showing skills. Children take pride in their accomplishments, especially as they improve and advance. They find great support from their barn mates as they participate in activities that share in their love for horses. Joining a youth club allows also allows them to compete together in team tournaments, organize activities and ride with friends. There's no limit to the personal and competitive goals a child can achieve once they decide to get involved with Arabian horses.



Amy Faulkner

*AHA strives to make
getting involved with the Arabian horse
available to everyone,
no matter your interest or skill level.*

ARABIAN HORSE REGISTRATION

WHAT IS REGISTRATION?

The Arabian Horse Association (AHA) serves as the official registry for both purebred Arabian horses and Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian horses. It contains more horses than any other Arabian registry in the world! This registry is used to track the Arabian heritage and is a resource for breeders, riders, competitions, and so much more.



Johanna Ulstrom

WHY REGISTER?

Registration provides key benefits. To begin, registration honors the legacy of a horse whose roots may go back thousands of years and allows for its offspring to qualify for registration. From a practical standpoint, certificates of registration add marketability and make a horse eligible to:

- Compete at more than 320 AHA-recognized shows and distance rides annually
- Earn recognition through many AHA-sponsored programs
- Enter programs that showcase breeding and have the potential to earn prize money such as Halter Futurity, Performance Futurity/Maturity/Derby futurities, and Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes
- Increase a horse's value through registration in a recognized breed registry
- Participate in racing at many tracks across the United States
- Another great feature is that Half-Arabian and Anglo-Arabian horses can often be double-registered, allowing participation in activities at AHA and other breed organizations

GET INVOLVED

DISCOVERY FARMS

If you've never encountered an Arabian horse up close, start your adventure by visiting a Discovery Farm. This unique program offers you the opportunity to explore Arabian horses at farms where knowledgeable owners are delighted to introduce you to their horses and answer questions in a relaxed, no-pressure, non-sales atmosphere. You'll learn all about the breed characteristics, and gain firsthand knowledge of what makes this breed truly special. There are hundreds of Discovery Farms across the country, and you can easily locate one near you at www.ArabianHorses.org/discover

T.A.I.L. TOURS (TOTAL ARABIAN INTERACTIVE LEARNING)

Attend a national Arabian horse show and get the exclusive backstage experience! Learn about horses and Arabians, see them at work up close. An exciting and new opportunity for adults and kids alike. For upcoming schedules visit www.ArabianHorses.org/tail

MEET AN ARABIAN HORSE MONTH

AHA members participate in a number of community outreach events across the United States. Events are hosted by local barns and clubs to encourage community members to interact and engage with Arabian horses to create curiosity and interest in taking the next steps forward of participating in riding programs, horse ownership and other activities. A list of event locations can be found at www.ArabianHorses.org/horseday



There are multiple ways to meet an Arabian horse in person. To see which way best meets your needs visit the AHA website.

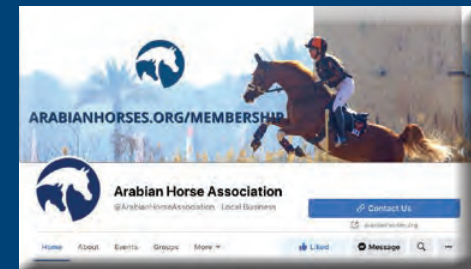
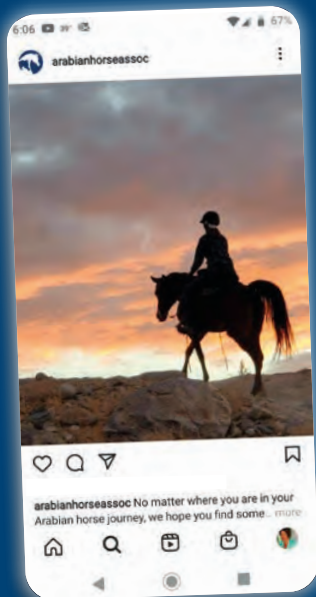
ARABIAN HORSE RESOURCES



- Check out our **podcast** *The Arabian Horse Connection* anywhere you find your listening material.
- Download the **AHA App** in your Apple or GooglePlay store. Just search Arabian Horse Association!
- Find *The Arabian Horse Connection* **blog** at www.arabianhorselife.org
- Become a part of our social media community! Look for us on –



- **Facebook:** Arabian Horse Association
- **Instagram:** @arabianhorseassoc and @arabianhorseyouth
- **TikTok:** @arabianhorseyouth
- Visit our website and explore at www.ArabianHorses.org!
- For further information you can contact the main office at info@arabianhorses.org or give us a call at 303.696.4500.



THANK YOU!

The Arabian Horse Association
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Suzanne
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