



Icelandic



Andalusian



Paso Fino



Falabella

Andalusian

Breed Characteristics: Known for their sensitivity, intelligence, and long thick manes and tails.

Color & Patterns: Most common coat color is grey (appears white) but many other colors are accepted.

Country of Origin: Spain, Iberian Peninsula.

History: Originally from the Iberian Peninsula where it has existed for thousands of years. It has been recognized as an individual breed since the 1400's. Used as a war horse for centuries and prized by nobility.

Uses: Used primarily for its athletic abilities including dressage and racing. Used in many movies including Lord of the Rings and The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe.

Icelandic

Breed Characteristics: Small and often pony sized-standing an average of 13-14 hands. The breed has a double layered coat to keep it extra warm in its native climate of Iceland.

Colors & Patterns: Many colors accepted including Bay, Roan, Dun, Palomino and grey. There are over 100 color names for their coats in the Icelandic language.

Country of Origin: Iceland

History: Ancestors of this horse were brought over by the Vikings of Scandinavia between 860-935AD and then crossed with ponys brought over by the Irish and Scottish (Norse) a short time later. The horses have played a significant religious and social role in their culture since.

Uses: Competition, Leisure riding, and still used for farming and rounding up sheep in Iceland.

Falabella

Breed Characteristics: Smallest breed of horse in the world standing only 30-34 inches tall full grown! Falabellas have the characteristics of horses and not ponies and are in fact considered a breed of Horse-not Pony.

Color & Patterns: Many colors accepted.

Country of Origin: Argentina

History: Originally developed by a man named Patrick Newtall in 1868 in Argentina. When he died his son-in-law Juan Falabella took over the herd. They were able to get the small size by cross breeding with ponies and even some inbreeding (now illegal).

Uses: Due to their small size they can only be ridden by very small children. They can jump obstacles up to 3 feet high and are often used as guide animals due to their small size and easy trainability.

Paso Fino

Breed Characteristics: Paso Fino means Fine Step. They are known for their gaits, natural drive, and willingness.

Color & Patterns: All colors accepted.

Country of Origin: Puerto Rico, Columbia, and other Latin American countries.

History: Bred from horses brought over by Columbus on his second voyage to the Americas in 1493, the Peruvian Paso, and the American Mustang. Puerto Rico has played a major role in the last 500 years in developing the current standard for the Paso Fino. All Paso Finos are gaited but only a few can perform the correct form of the Fino gait.

Uses: Trail riding, edurance, driving, and often found in Western competitions such as barrels, reining, and cow penning.



Morgan



Missouri Fox Trotter



Bashkir Curly



Lipizzaner

Missouri Fox Trotter

Breed Characteristics: Famous for its smooth Fox Trot gait and stamina. Gait is so smooth it nearly eliminates the bounce typical of horse riding. Many say it feels more like gliding.

Color & Patterns: Any solid color or pinto.

Country of Origin: United States

History: Developed by settlers in the Ozark Mountaint range in Missouri in the early 1800's specifically for its smooth gait and stock horse abilities.

Uses: Extensively used by trail riders who appreciate their gaits and weight carrying abilities. Also used in disabled riding programs as their gait has proven useful for people with minor physical injuries or disabilities.

Morgan

Breed Characteristics: Compact and refined build, expressive eyes, strong legs, intelligent, courageous, with a good disposition. 14-15 hands tall.

Colors & Patterns: Most commonly Bay, Black, or Chestnut but many colors accepted.

Country of Origin: United States

History: Morgans are one of the earliest breeds developed in the U.S. They have been used for riding, racing, and even cavalry horses during the Civil War! All Morgans trace back to a single Stallion named Figure born in 1789. In 1792 he was given to a man named Justin Morgan as a debt payment and his offspring began to be known as Justin Morgan horses- and then eventually Morgan horses..

Uses: Known for its versatility, used especially in driving competitions and pleasure riding.

Lipizzaner

Breed Characteristics: A performance horse, best known for its use in Dressage. Lipizzaners mature slower than most horses but outlive many other breeds as well- many performing well into their 20's and living into their 30's.

Color & Patterns: Most Lipizzans are grey- born dark (usually bay or black)- and becoming lighter each year, many becoming nearly white by 6-10 years.

Country of Origin: The European Royal House of Hapsburg- modern day Slovenia, Croatia, Austria, and Hungary.

History: Lipizzaners were selectively bred by the House of Hapsburg as far back as the 16th century.

Uses: Used primarily for dressage- performing tricks specific to the Lipizzaner called, "The Airs Above the Ground" including their famous Courbette and Capriole

American Curly

Breed Characteristics: Famous for its hypoallergenic curly coat, mane, and tail. Quiet and levelheaded making them great horses for beginning riders.

Color & Patterns: All colors accepted.

Country of Origin: North America

History: The origin of the curly horse is a mystery and debated to this day. Evidence shows that Sioux Indians had curly horses as early as 1801-02 and sightings were made in the late 1700's in South America however no one has been able to find the link between where they came from and how they got to the Americas.

Uses: Dressage, show jumping, and especially rider training, ranching, and trail riding.