

Light Horse - Draft Horse - Warmblood Information Sheet

From infoplease.com:

A light horse is any breed of horse that is used primarily for riding or for light work such as pulling buggies. Light horses have their origin in the Middle East and North Africa. All modern breeds of light horse trace their origins to the Arabian horse, usually through the Thoroughbred. Light horses are classified according to training, e.g., racers, trotters, riding horses, and cow horses

From Wikipedia:

A draft horse, draught horse or dray horse (from the Anglo-Saxon *dragan* meaning to draw or haul) is a large horse bred for hard, heavy tasks such as ploughing and farm labor. There are a number of different breeds, with varying characteristics but all share common traits of strength, patience and a docile temperament which made them indispensable to generations of pre-industrial farmers. Draft horses and draft crossbreeds are versatile breeds used today for a multitude of purposes, including farming, show, and other recreational uses. They are also commonly used for crossbreeding, especially to light riding breeds such as the Thoroughbred. While most draft horses are used for driving, they can be ridden and some of the lighter draft breeds are capable performers under saddle.

A number of horse breeds are used as draft horses, with the popularity of a given breed often closely linked to geographic location. Examples include:

American Cream
Ardennes
Belgian
Boulonnais
Breton
Clydesdale
Dole Gudbrandsdal
Irish Draught
Percheron
Shire
Suffolk Punch
Gypsy Vanner horse

Warmbloods are a group of middle-weight horse types and breeds, primarily originating in Europe, registered with organizations that are characterized by open studbook policy, studbook selection, and the aim of breeding for equestrian sport. The term distinguishes these horses from both heavy draft horses ("cold bloods") and refined light saddle horses such as the Thoroughbred and Arabian ("hot bloods"). Though modern Warmbloods are descended from heavier agricultural types systematically upgraded by hotblood influence, the term does not imply that Warmbloods are direct crosses of "cold" and "hot". It is thought that the Warmblood type, which originated in continental Europe, descended from a landrace of wild, native proto-warmblood ancestors, and possibly trace back to a wild prototype called the Forest Horse.

Reference <http://www.4horse.umd.edu/resources/breeds.html>
for more information concerning horse breeds.

The following pages provide information on various Light horse breeds. For Level 3 and 4, you should be able to describe the difference between a light breed, a draft breed, and a warm blood. In addition, you should be able to name two breed characteristics of Arabians, Quarter Horses, Morgans, Thoroughbreds, Appaloosas, and Saddlebreds.

BREEDS OF LIGHT HORSES

A breed is a group of horses having common origin and possessing certain distinguishable characteristics that are transmittable to their offspring (see Table 1. Breeds of Light Horses and Their Characteristics).

An understanding of breeds and terms to describe the breeds is important to all horsemen. Description of colors and color markings can be found in the guide sheet of that title. If you desire pictures of the breeds, contact the *Secretaries of the Breed Registry Associations* at the addresses given in this guide or contact USDA Office of Information for a copy of Bulletin FB 2127 entitled "Light Horses."

HORSE BREED TERMS

Breed character - Those characteristics of a breed that distinguish it from other breeds.

Breeder - Owner of the dam (female) at the time of service (breeding). The jockey Club, which records Thoroughbreds, uses the term to refer to the owner of a mare at the time a foal is dropped.

Breed standard - Standard of excellence set up by a breed association for its breed.

Breed type - Those characteristics commonly accepted as ideal for a particular breed.

Cold-blood - A horse of draft-horse breeding.

Crossbred animal - A horse that has purebred or high-grade parents of different breeds.

Dam - The female parent - mother.

Family - A group of animals within a breed, all of which trace directly to a common ancestor.

Get - The offspring of a sire.

Grade animal - A horse that has one purebred parent and one grade or scrub parent.

Half-bred - When capitalized, this denotes a horse sired by a Thoroughbred and registered in the Half-Bred Stud Book.

Hot-blooded - A horse of eastern or oriental blood.

Pedigree - Written record of the ancestry of an animal. It may or may not be used to refer to a registration certificate.

Performance registry - A record book in which the performance of animals is recorded and preserved.

Produce - The offspring of a dam.

Purebred animal - An individual horse whose parents are recorded in the same registry association. A Registered animal is one whose parents are recorded and is itself recorded, and the registration certificate has been issued.

Registration certificate - Written record of the ancestry of an animal, issued by the registry association.

Registry association - An organization formed for the purpose of keeping records of the ancestry of individuals within a breed and to promote the breed.

Sire - The male parent - father.

Stud - A horse breeding establishment or farm. The breeding stallion is usually called the stud horse.

Stud book - A book of record published by breed registry associations for purebred horses, ponies, or jacks.

Table 1. Breeds of Light Horses and Their Characteristics

*Breed Associations	Place of Origin	Color	Other Distinguishing Characteristics	Primary Uses	Disqualifications
The American Saddlebred Horse Association, Inc.	United States; in Fayette County, Kentucky	Bay, brown, chestnut, gray or black. Gaudy white markings are frowned upon.	Ability to furnish an easy ride with great style and animation. Long and graceful neck and proud action.	Three - and five-gated saddle horses. Fine harness horses, Pleasure horses, Stock horses.	
Appaloosa Horse Club, Inc.	United States, in Oregon, Washington and Idaho; from animals originating in Fergana, Central Asia.	Variable, but usually white over the loin and hips, with dark round, or egg-shaped spots thereon.	The eye is encircled by white, the skin is mottled and the hoofs are striped vertically black and white.	Stock horses, Pleasure horses, Parade horses.	Animals not having Appaloosa Characteristics, and animals of draft horse and pony, Albino or Pinto breeding; cryptorchids; and animals under 14 hands at maturity (5 yrs. or older)
Arabian Horse Registry of America	Arabia	Bay, gray, and chestnut with an occasional white or black. White marks on the head and legs are common. The skin is always dark.	A beautiful head, short coupling, docility, great endurance, and a gay way of going.	Saddle horses, Stock horses.	
Cleveland Bay Horse Society of America	England; in the Cleveland district of Yorkshire.	Always solid bay with black legs.		Today , it is used chiefly as a great utility horse; for riding, driving, and doing all kinds of farm work. Also, used in cross-breeding to produce heavy weight hunters.	Any color other than bay.
American Connemara Pony Society	Ireland, on the West Cost	Gray, black, bay, brown, dun, cream, with, occasional roans and chestnuts.	They range in height from 13 to 14-2 hands. Famous as jumpers. Also noted for hardiness, docility, and soundness.	As jumpers, for showing under saddle and occasionally in harness, and for general riding and hunting for medium sized adult and children.	Piebalds and skewbalds not accepted for registration.
American Hackney Horse Society	England; on the eastern coast, in Norfolk and adjoining counties	Chestnut, bay, and brown are most common colors, although roans and blacks are seen. White marks are common and are desired.	In the show- ring, custom decrees that heavy harness horses be docked and have their manes pulled. High natural action.	Heavy harness or carriage horses. For crossbreeding purposes to produce hunters and jumpers.	

Table 1. Breeds of Light Horses and Their Characteristics

Breed Associations	Place of Origin	Color	Other Distinguishing Characteristics	Primary Uses	Disqualifications
American Morgan Horse Association, Inc.	United States; in the New England States	Bay, brown, black, and chestnut; extensive white markings are common.	Easy keeping qualities, endurance and docility	Saddle horses, Stock horses.	
The National Spotted Saddle Horse Association	United States; from animals of Hackney and Saddle Horse breeding.	Spotted. The secondary color must not be less than 10%, not including white legs or white on the face.		Saddle horses, Stock horses, Pleasure horses, Fine harness horses, Parade horses	Animals under 14.2 hands. Animals of draft horse or pony breeding, or showing these characteristics.
Palomino Horse Association, Inc.	United States; from horses of Spanish extraction.	Golden (the color of a newly minted gold coin or 3 shades lighter or darker), with a light colored mane and tail (white, silver or ivory, with not more than 15% dark or chestnut hair in either). White markings on the face or below the knees are acceptable.		Stock horses, Parade horses, Pleasure horses, Saddle horses, Fine harness horses.	Animals of draft-horse or pony breeding, and the offspring of piebald or albino breeding not eligible for registration.
Pinto Horse Association of America, Inc.	United States; from horses brought in by Spanish Conquistadores.	Preferably half color or colors and half white, with many spots well placed. The two distinct pattern markings are: Overo and Tobiano.	Glass eyes are not discounted.	Any light horse purpose, but especially for show, parade, notice and pleasure purposes.	Under 14-1 hands; pony or draft horse blood.
Pony of Americas Club	United States; Mason City, Iowa.	Similar to Appaloosa; white over the loin and hips, with dark round or egg-shaped spots.	46" to 52" high.	Children's mounts.	Ponies not within the height range; or not having the appaloosa color, including mottled skin and much exposed sclera of the eye. Pinto marking and loud-colored roans.
America Quarter Horse Association	United States	Chestnuts, sorrel, bays, and dun are most common; although they may be palomino, black brown, roan, copper-colored.	Well-muscled and powerfully built. Small alert ear; sometimes heavily muscled cheeks and jaw.	Stock horses, Racing, Pleasure horses.	Pinto, Appaloosa, and albino colors are ineligible for registration, also white markings on the underline.

Table 1. Breeds of Light Horses and Their Characteristics

Breed Associations	Place of Origin	Color	Other Distinguishing Characteristics	Primary Uses	Disqualifications
American Shetland Pony Club	Shetland Isles	All colors, either solid or broken.	Small size, good disposition.	Children's mounts, Harness-show purposes (the American type).	Over 46" in height.
United States Trotting Association (Standardbred)	United States	Bay, brown, chestnut, and black are most common, but grays, roans and duns are found.	Smaller and less leggy and with more substance and ruggedness than the Thoroughbred.	Harness racing, either trotting or pacing. Harness horses in horse shows.	
Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' And Exhibitors' Association		Bay, brown, chestnut, and black; less frequently, roan, and gray. White markings on the face and legs are common.	Fineness of conformation. Long, straight and well muscled legs.	Running races. Stock horses. Saddle horses. Polo mounts. Hunters.	
The Jockey Club (Thoroughbred)	England	Bay, brown, chestnut, and black; less frequently, roan, and gray. White markings on the face and legs are common.	Fineness of conformation. Long, straight and well-muscled legs.	Running races. Stock horses. Saddle horses. Polo mounts. Hunters.	
Welsh Pony Society of America	Wales	Any color except piebald and skewbald.	Small size; intermediate between Shetland Ponies and other light horse breeds. Those 12-2 hands and under are registered in Sec. A of stud book. Mares and stallions over 12-2 and not over 14-0 hands are registered in Sec. B of the Stud Book.	Children mounts. Harness show ponies Roadster and racing ponies. Hunter ponies.	Any white markings on body unless approved by Board of directors.

*Check your local library reference for current address