

**HEAVY HORSES:** A draft horse (or heavy horse) is a large horse bred for hard, heavy tasks such as ploughing and farm labour. Commonly known Heavy Horse breeds include -

The **Clydesdale** - a breed of draught horse derived from the farm horses of Clydesdale, Scotland, and named after that region. Although originally one of the smaller breeds of draught horses, it is now a tall breed. Often bay in colour, they show significant white markings due to the presence of sabino genetics, they also have extensive feathering on their lower legs. The breed was originally used for agriculture and haulage, and is still used for draught purposes today. They have also been used to create and improve other draught breeds. The breed was developed from Flemish stallions imported to Scotland and crossed with local mares. The first recorded use of the name "Clydesdale" for the breed was in 1826, and by 1830 a system of hiring stallions had begun that resulted in the spread of Clydesdale horses throughout Scotland and into northern England. The first breed registry was formed in 1877. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, thousands of Clydesdales were exported from Scotland and sent throughout the world, including to Australia and New Zealand. Traditionally used for heavy labour, the Clydesdale horse breed has been mostly replaced by tractors and other machinery except by farmers who reject the industrial way of life and on eco-friendly farms, as well as in some remaining logging operations. From their use as warhorses in the 17th century to as recently as the 1960's they could be seen pulling heavy loads in rural settings, as well as in urban and industrial areas.

The **Gypsy Horse** - also known as an **Irish Cob, Gypsy Cob, Gypsy Vanner & Tinker**.

'Vanner' is a term used to describe a horse that is suitably built for pulling a caravan or other heavy vehicle. The breed originates from the UK and Ireland. The Gypsy Cob was bred to be a wagon horse. These horses were bred by the Romany, and pulled wagons or caravans known as Vardos, which is a type of covered wagon that people lived in. Today, the Gypsy Cob is no longer used for pulling Vardos, but it is still looked upon as a symbol of power and strength among the Romany. The Gypsy Horse typically has an abundant mane and tail as well as "feather" or "feathering" on the legs, long hair starting at the cannon bone and flowing down over the hooves. The build is powerful and compact, with a short neck and back, their legs should have heavy bone set on large hooves. The Gypsy cob is heavy boned, the typical horse measuring between 14 and 16 hands.

**Clydesdales, Gypsy Horses and other heavy horse breeds were developed specifically for their solid build and type which was suited to pulling heavy loads; they were selected over the lighter horse which was unsuited to the rigors of heavy labour. Heavy horse breeds** are primarily a wagon or cart (haulage) horse bred and developed for that specific purpose.

**GAITED HORSES:** are breeds that have been selectively bred and developed for their natural gaiting tendencies, that is; the ability to perform the four-beat horse gaits, collectively referred to as ambling gaits. Commonly known Gaited Horse breeds include -

**Standardbreds** - a breed of horse best known for their ability to race in harness. Bred in the USA the idea of the Standardbred began in the 1800s when working harness horses were used for racing at the weekends, engaging in brief contests of speed over country roads and the sport of harness racing took root. The type, or breed characteristics began to become established and to be bred for. Later in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, official courses were developed. This was the backdrop to the development of the Standardbred horse.

Foundation stock included the Narragansett Pacer (frequently crossed with other breeds, and providing the foundation for breeds including the American Saddlebred, and Tennessee Walking

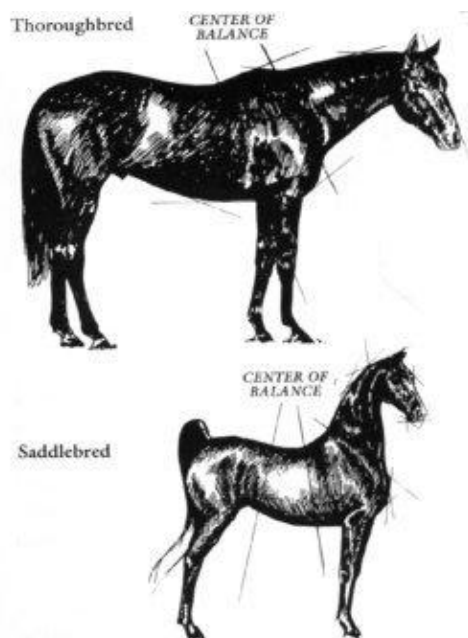
Horse) Canadian Pacer (notable Canadian Pacer sire Tom Hal was important in the lineages of many Gaited horses) Norfolk Trotter, the Hackney (a high stepping breed of carriage horse) and the Morgan.

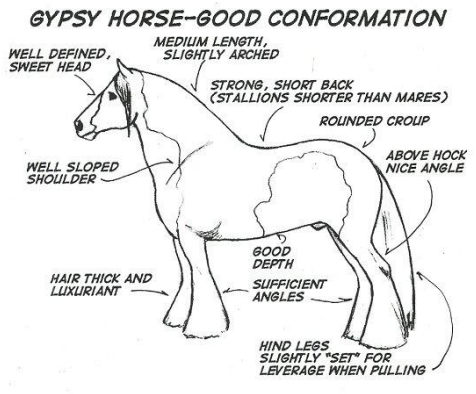
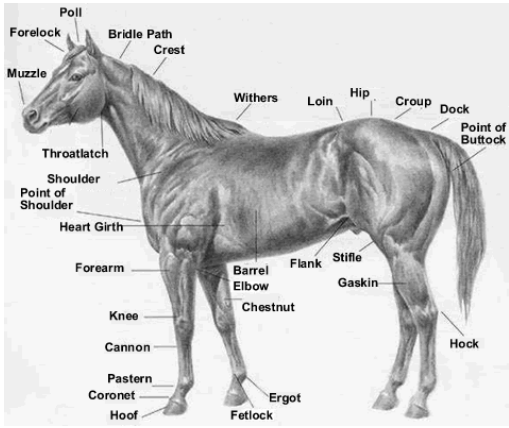
Breeding of the Standardbred has always been focused on performance, they have longer bodies and shorter legs than Thoroughbreds and overall they are less refined with a plain head. The Standardbred has been specifically developed with selective breeding to encourage the characteristics of a successful harness horse and resulting in the modern day Standardbred harness racing horse.

**Saddlebred** - 'The **American Saddlebred** differs from other horses in conformation, temperament, and heritage. The Saddlebred Horse differs from other horses in the head and neck, the feet and legs and the top line. The long legs and sloping pasterns give a spring to the stride that is not possible in horses with short stubby pasterns. Saddlebreds naturally have high stepping action and a ground covering stride. The withers are refined, and in contrast to many other light horses the withers should be well above the height of the hips.' (McMillan 1980) 'All Saddlebreds inherit the ambling gait' (Cheryl R Lutring) Gaited horse breeds, including Saddlebreds, have natural gaited tendencies; that is, to perform a foot fall pattern outside the normal walk, trot/jog, canter/lope sequence. If a horse single foots, ambles, paces, tolt, or does a running walk or rack it is 'gaiting', this ability has been specifically developed by selective cross breeding to develop and improve on natural gaited or 'ambling' tendencies, thus producing the Saddlebred (and other gaited horse breeds) 'The Saddlebred is considered a 'gaited' horse by Saddlebred associations and breeders alike. (The American Saddlebred Horse)

The breed has a hereditary predisposition to lordosis, a curvature of the spine, as well as occupational predispositions to upper respiratory and lameness issues. Junctional Epidermolysis Bullosa (JEB) is an inherited disease also known as Red Foot Disease or Hairless Foal Syndrome, JEB2 can occur in American Saddlebred horses.

The Saddlebred Standard of Excellence shows a distinct difference to that of the light riding horses the PHPA accepts.





There is also a distinct difference between the type of the PHPA accepted riding horse type and that of the Gypsy Cob.