

## How to Measure a Horse/Pony

You are familiar with inches and feet as units of measurement. You know that one foot is equal to 12 inches. When it comes to horses, you measure them in “hands”. One hand is equal to 4 inches.

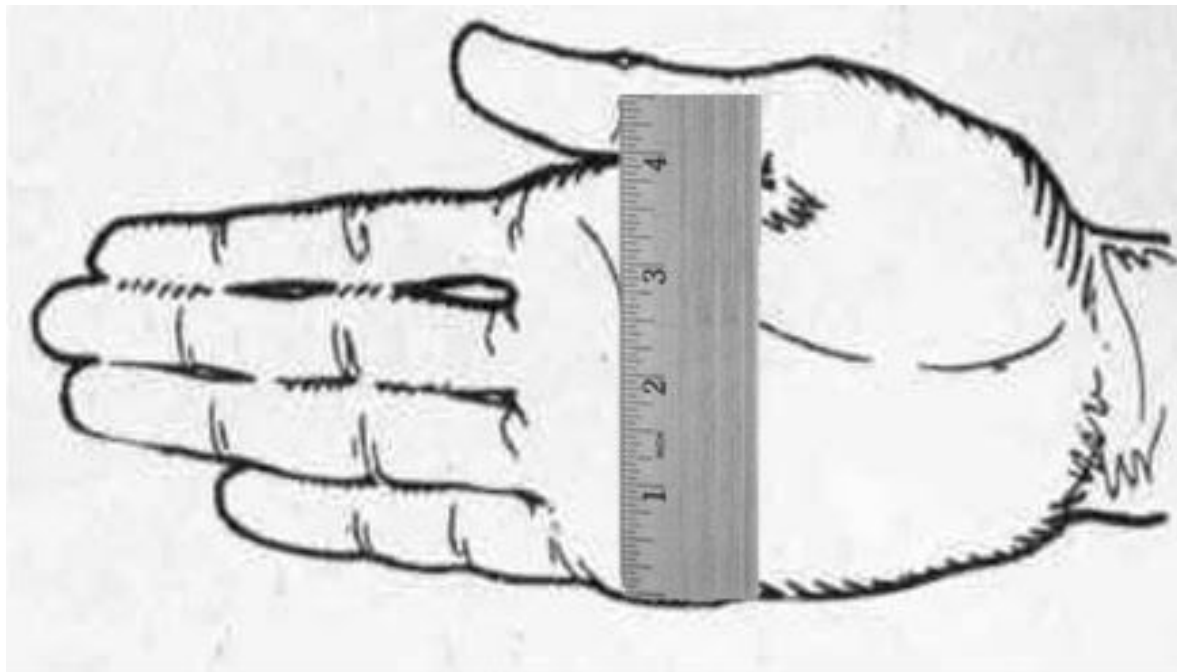
Horses are measured from the ground to the top of their withers.



The difference between a horse and a pony is the size. In general, a horse is 14.2 hands or larger. A pony is smaller than 14.2 hands. A hand is (measured across the palm) is typically 4 inches and the number after the decimal point is inches. So a pony that is 12.1 hands high is 49 inches tall at the withers.

You can buy a special measuring stick called a horse measuring stick.

Today we are going to do it the old fashioned way and measure with our hands.



## Measure Up

<u>Inches</u>	<u>Horse Breed</u>
36-44.8	Sheltand Pony
44.8-52.8	Pony of the Americas
48-56.8	Hackney Pony
56.8-61.2	Quarter Horse
60-68	Throughbred
64-76	Belgian

Have your partner measure you with a measuring tape.

1. How many inches tall are you? \_\_\_\_\_

2. How many hands tall are you? \_\_\_\_\_

\*Remember, to calculate your height in hands, divide your height in inches by 4.

3. What kind of horse are you? \_\_\_\_\_

4. How tall is your partner? \_\_\_\_\_

5. What kind of horse is he/she? \_\_\_\_\_

EXTRA: Measure each other using your hands (Multiply the number of hands you measure by 4. Round up to the nearest inch.) See if you get the same measurement as when you measured with the measuring tape.