

# Blaze News

AN ACTIVITY  
NEWSLETTER  
FROM

Blaze  
magazine  
For Horse-Crazy Kids



Check us out online  
visit [www.blazekids.com](http://www.blazekids.com)

## WELCOME to BLAZE NEWS

**Hi Kids!** It's me Blaze  
your trusty *Blaze magazine*  
mascot.

I'm so lucky to have so many horse friends, big  
and small. I'm not one to discriminate. Horses  
are horses. It doesn't matter to me what size or  
color or breed they are. A friend is a friend.

Just recently I saw something amazing in the  
neighbor's pasture across the road. At first I  
thought it was a baby deer. CUTE! Then I thought it  
was a leggy dog. Jelly Bean, my Pony of the  
Americas pasture pal, told me that it's a horse... a  
small one called a Miniature!

From what I've observed from my paddock, that  
little horse likes to do everything we bigger horses  
do. He runs fast, loves to be groomed, eats the same  
food, loves to roll around and doesn't like to be  
alone. He even pulls his owners around in a really  
cool cart! Horses sure do come in all colors and  
sizes!

I hope you enjoy learning about **Miniature  
Horses** as much as I've enjoyed getting to know the  
Mini next door. To learn even more, visit The  
American Miniature Horse Registry (AMHR) web-  
site at [www.shetlandminiature.com](http://www.shetlandminiature.com).

*Gotta Gallop*  
Your Friend Blaze

## Small Wonders

# THE Miniature HORSE

The first true **Miniature Horse**, or  
**Mini**, originated in Europe nearly four  
hundred years ago! These little horses  
were bred as pets for Europe's Royal  
Families. **King Louis XIV** had his  
own zoo of many unusual animals,  
including tiny horses.

The first Miniature Horses brought  
to the United States from Europe  
arrived in the early 1930s. Today, thou-  
sands of Minis can be found on family  
farms from coast to coast.



These versatile little horses can  
do just about everything a full-sized  
horse can do. They are big fun in a  
small package. Their roles vary from  
backyard pets, to gorgeous show  
horses, to therapy horses for persons  
with special needs. Some even work  
as companions for elderly people.  
Whatever your interest in horses,  
there is a Miniature Horse suitable for  
the job!



Blaze turned  
5 in May!

You can still get our  
Super-Sized "Best of  
Blaze" birthday issue if  
you missed it!

# Horsing Around

## HORSE SMARTS

Test your knowledge of Miniatures!  
Are these statements True or False?

**1** **T or F** A Miniature Horse's height is measured in hands just like other horses and ponies.

**2** **T or F** The world Miniature Horse population is about 240,000.

**3** **T or F** A Mini is slightly taller than a Labrador Retriever dog.

**4** **T or F** Miniatures are always chestnut, black or bay in color.

**5** **T or F** Miniatures can be kept in town as long as you have a fenced yard.

**6** **T or F** Miniatures need to eat twice a day.

**7** **T or F** Miniatures can be used as guide animals for people who are blind.

**8** **T or F** To be a Mini, the horse must measure less than 38 inches (96.5 cm).

**9** **T or F** A Miniature costs just as much to keep as a full-size horse.

**10** **T or F** Shetland Ponies and Miniatures are closely related.



## Blaze Star



### LOLA

This little package of a horse packs a busy schedule. Lola stands just 24 inches tall! She's a Miniature Horse, and a small one at that, so she can visit schools, fairs and nursing homes.

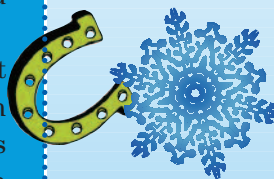
But what she loves doing most is jumping into the back of the van for a day at the beach. Carousels and grocery shopping trips are fun too, when there's time. TV appearances and radio and newspaper interviews keep her busy too! And then there's book signings. Yup... her actual hoofprint in her own activity book called *The Wonderful Life of Lola*, "A Day At The Beach" ([www.smallhorse.com](http://www.smallhorse.com)).



## Miniature WORD FIND

Help! We've lost 9 Minis!  
Find "mini" 9 times in our Mini Word Search.

M	I	N	I	M
I	N	M	I	M
M	I	N	I	M
M	I	M	I	M
I	I	I	I	I
N	M	N	M	N
I	M	I	I	I





# A HORSE OF COURSE

Miniature Horses are really just smaller versions of horses. They share many of the same characteristics of their taller cousins. Use the list of words to match the descriptions.

**Blaze**

**Bay**

**Sock**

**Chestnut**

**Appaloosa**

**Snip**

**Palomino**

**Star**

**Stocking**

**Gray**

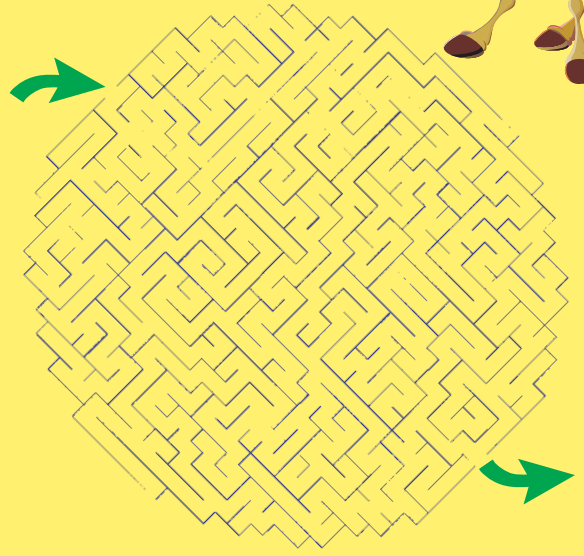
1. Dark brown coat with black mane and tale.
2. White spot between the nostrils.
3. Gold colored with cream mane and tail.
4. White marking from hoof to 2/3rds up leg.
5. Black skin with white hair.
6. Spotted.
7. White spot on the forehead.
8. Reddish brown.
9. Wide white area down bridge of nose.
10. White marking from the hoof to the knee or hock.



**Answers:**  
**Horse Smarts**  
 1-F, 2-T, 3-T, 4-F, 5-F, 6-T, 7-T, 8-T, 9-F, 10-T  
**A Horse of Course**  
 1-Bay, 2-Snip, 3-Palomino, 4-Sock, 5-Gray, 6-Appaloosa, 7-Star, 8-Chestnut, 9-Blaze, 10-Stocking.

## A-maZing Race

Miniature Horse Hanna feels like she's been running around in circles all day! The dinner bell is ringing in the stable and she needs to get back home before all the hay is eaten. Can you help her find her way?



**Did YOU know ???**

Miniatures compete in driving, halter, showmanship and much more!

At birth a Miniature is between 16 and 20 inches tall.

## KEEP Safe!

### SMALL EQUINE SAFETY TIP

Never wrap the end of your lead shank or lead rope around your hand if your horse or pony pulls. The rope or lead can tighten around your hand and cause a serious injury.

## Last Laugh

Did you hear about the Miniature Horse named "Cough Drop"?

Seems he's feeling *a little hoarse!*

The American Shetland Pony Club  
The American Miniature Horse Registry

# Win **Big** with Small Equines



**D**O YOU KNOW all the fun things  
you can do with Shetland Ponies and  
Miniature Horses?

The American  
Shetland Pony Club  
and Miniature Horse  
Registry offers youth  
member's contests, youth judging programs,  
youth team activities and all kinds of show  
opportunities including showmanship, obstacle  
classes, driving, jumping and even  
costume classes.



**Best of all they offer an  
annual youth essay contest  
and the top essay's writers  
win a Shetland Pony and a Miniature Horse.**

Tons of fun awaits you—so join today.  
Small equines are versatile fun and affordable.  
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**www.shetlandminiature.com**  
**309-263-4044**



American Shetland Pony Club  
American Miniature Horse Registry  
American Show Pony Registry  
National Show Pony Registry

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