

Blaze News



AN ACTIVITY
NEWSLETTER FROM

magazine
Blaze
For Horse-Crazy Kids

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WELCOME TO THE AMAZING WORLD OF THE AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE

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

My **American Quarter Horse** barn pals, Hank and Sweetie, are not only great herd mates, they're very popular too! I see Quarter Horses everywhere (not just in my paddock). They're in the movies, at horse shows and rodeos, working on dude ranches, and even racing at the track. Sweetie says it's because of the Quarter Horse's good looks and great attitude that makes everyone want to own a Quarter Horse. Hank says there's much more to love about his popular breed than charm and good looks alone!

We've been thrilled to be able to call the **American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA)** a friend of *Blaze* magazine since our first issues seven years ago! AQHA has the special distinction of being the largest breed society in the world, with nearly four million Quarter Horses registered worldwide.

And the **American Quarter Horse Youth (AQHYA)** division has something to shout about too! With more than 30,000 members, AQHYA is the largest youth equine breed association in the world... that's the size of a small city! They have tons of programs to fit any young horse lover's fancy.

Are you ready to have some fun with **Quarter Horses** in this issue of *Blaze News*? I can't wait to share with Hank and Sweetie all that I've learned about their amazing breed!

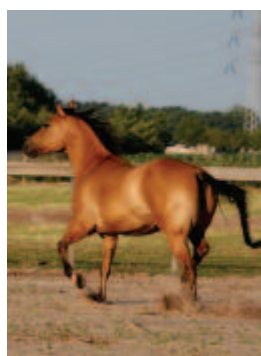


Gotta Gallop
Your Friend
Blaze

MADE IN AMERICA THE AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE

In the 1600s, American colonists began to cross their imported English horses with "native" horses like the **Chickasaw**. Bred with England's **Thoroughbreds**, America's pioneers got a small and hardy horse that was a good work horse during the week and a speedy race horse on the weekend.

By the 1800s, settlers were heading West with these willing horses. They bred them with wild **Mustangs**, and other horses that the Native American Indians rode, giving birth to the **American Quarter Horse** of today.



There are many kinds of Quarter Horses, but just two main body types – stock and racing. The stock type is shorter, more compact, with strong muscles and very agile. The racing Quarter Horse is built to sprint short distances. They have longer legs and a leaner build. But both types have speed and stamina and a great willingness to please.



To learn more about America's Favorite Horse, visit www.aqha.com. Want to get involved with AQHA's youth program? Visit www.aqha.com/youth/index.html.

Subscribe to BLAZE magazine on page 4!

Horsing Around



Howdy
Partners, welcome
to the exciting
world of horses!

HORSE PLAY: TEST YOUR QUARTER HORSE SMARTS

The name Quarter Horse comes from...

- a The first quarter horse was bought for 25 cents.
- b The horse that started the breed was named "Quarter."
- c The distance of a 1/4 mile.
- d A quart of milk.

Quarter horses can be a number of different colors except this one?

- a white
- b sorrel
- c chestnut
- d black

White markings on Quarter Horses can be found only on their...

- a face.
- b legs.
- c face and legs.
- d body.

America's Horse is well traveled. They can be found on every continent except this one?

- a Europe
- b Australia
- c Asia
- d Antarctica
- e South America

An Appendix horse is part Quarter Horse and part...

- a Paint.
- b Appaloosa.
- c Thoroughbred.
- d Morgan.

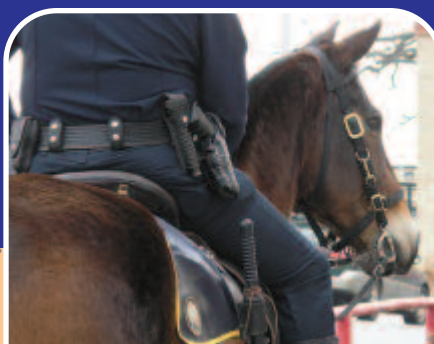


HELP MISTY!

Misty has lost her markings. Her registration papers say that she has two socks on her front legs, and one stocking on her back left leg. She also has a star and a snip. Her coat is chestnut, and her mane and tail are black. She has two white hooves, and two black. Can you help her?

DID YOU KNOW?

Mounted police often ride Quarter Horses.



Blaze Star!

Maisy, Concho, Hoss and Tiny take horse play to incredible new heights in Level 1 & 2 of AQHA's Junior Master Horseman. It's more than just a book – it's a whole herd of fun where you and your friends can learn about horses of all kinds. Visit www.aqha.com.

FUN FACTS MIX UP

**HELP! THESE NUMBERS
ARE ALL MESSED UP.
SHOULD THEY BE...
↑ HIGHER OR ↓ LOWER?**

1.	There are 15 million horses in the world.	↑ or ↓
2.	Quarter Horses are the most popular breed of horse with 10,000,000 throughout the world!	↑ or ↓
3.	A 1/4 mile is the same as 800 yards (731 meters).	↑ or ↓
4.	The Quarter Horse's color palette has 5 color possibilities.	↑ or ↓
5.	Quarter Horses are usually 18-20 hands high.	↑ or ↓
6.	A healthy Quarter Horse's average weight is 2,000 lbs (907 kg).	↑ or ↓
7.	Quarter Horse racing began in 1974.	↑ or ↓
8.	Ready, Set, Go! Barrel racers can finish the cloverleaf pattern in a minute!	↑ or ↓

Race Day Match Game

HEY TRACK STARS! GRAB YOUR RUNNING SHOES!
WE'RE OFF TO THE RACES!

Match the top speed of each animal (us included) in a 1/4 mile race.

Human	9 mph (14 km/h)
Quarter Horse	39 mph (62 km/h)
Greyhound	27 mph (43 km/h)
Kangaroo	55 mph (88 km/h)
Chicken	30 mph (48 km/h)
Cheetah	75 mph (120 km/h)

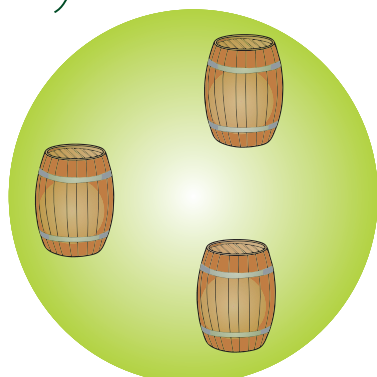
HORSE SPORTS SCRAMBLE

Quarter Horses have many talents. Versatile and good tempered, they participate in many different horse sports. Unscramble the letters to name a few.

NRINEIG		Hint:	The old man is snoring.
GSREDSEA		Hint:	Hat and coat required.
POEL NGENBID		Hint:	Bend but don't break.
RLABRES		Hint:	Round and round.
GLNAGUI		Hint:	Equine gymnastics.
CTUGITN		Hint:	Cowboys love cows too.
IGNARC		Hint:	And they're off!
OREDO		Hint:	No clowning around.



RACING AROUND a THREE-LEAF CLOVER



Barrel racing is one of the fastest growing sports in the country, and Quarter Horses excel at it! Winning times can be as fast as 13-14 seconds. Riders sit deep in the saddle and try not to knock over any barrels.

Draw out the racing barrel pattern. Things to remember...you can decide if you want to turn left or right around the first barrel. But remember how you started because, your next two barrel turns must be in the opposite direction of your first turn.

Riddle Me This



What is shaped like a horse, often as big or bigger than a horse, but weighs nothing?

DID YOU KNOW?



Quarter Horses are the "original" cowboy horse.

Riddle Me This

In a farmer's field of bay, brown and dun colored Quarter Horses, all but four are bay, all but four are brown, and all but four are dun.

How many Quarter Horses are there?

A horse's shadow. • Six (2 bay, 2 brown, 2 dun).

Riddles:

Reining, Dressage, Pole Bending, Barrels, Vaulting, Cutting, Racing, Rodeo.

Sports Scramble:

High/Low:
1-Lower (9.2 million); 2-Lower (3.7 million); 3-Lower (440 yards/402 meters); 4-Higher (13); 5-Lower (14.2-17 hh); 6-Lower (1,000-1,500 lbs/454-680 kgs); 7-Lower (1674); 8-Lower (13-15 seconds).

Match Game:

Human - 27; Quarter Horse - 55; Greyhound - 39; Kangaroo - 30; Chicken - 9; Cheetah - 75.

Horse Smarts:

1-c; 2-a; 3-c; 4-d; 5-c.

Answers:

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