

Donkey or Burro?

There is no such thing as a donkey or a burro. The animal that we all care for is an Equus Asinus. The terms “donkey” or “burro” are simply the English or Spanish words referring to this animal. We, at PVDR, use “donkey” to refer to domestic and “Burro” to refer to the wild ones.

Inches or Hands?

Donkeys are always measured in inches from the ground to the top of the withers. Horses, are measured in “hands”, a hand is equal to 4”.

Sizes

Donkeys come in there main sizes:

Miniatures 36” and under

Standard 37” to 55”

Mammoth 56” and above

There are times when we might use “small standard” or “large standard”.

Colors

The most common colors of donkeys are as follows:

Gray

Brown

Black

Pink

Red

White

Blue: salt and pepper (must have both black and gray mixed in the coat)

Spotted: “Paint” is a registered trademark of the American Paint Horse Association. The proper term is always “spotted” when referring to donkeys.

Standard donkeys average 48” and 500 pounds. (Helps to gauge the height and weight of others)

PVDR donkeys typically originate as a result of a law enforcement or federal government request.

PVDR averages 750 rescues per year in the lower 48 states. The Wild Burro Program will exceed this number over the next five years.

Jack: an uncastrated male donkey

Jennet: (Jenny): a female donkey

Gelding: a castrated male donkey

Foal: any donkey under one year

Yearling: a donkey between 1 and 2 years of age

John: a castrated male mule

Molly: a female mule

Mule: The offspring of a male donkey and a female horse

Hinny: The offspring of a male horse and a female donkey