



ABCR Breed Standard

The ABCR Breed Standard describes an American Bashkir Curly, in part, as being 14 to 16 hands and weighing 800 to 1250 lbs. The head is of medium size with a well-defined jaw and throat latch. The eyes are wide set with eyelashes that curl up. Ears are short to medium in length with curls inside. The neck is of medium length and deep at the base where it joins the shoulder. The back is noticeably short and deep through the girth. The legs are heavy boned with short cannon bones as compared to the forearm. They have a curly coat and display a gentle disposition.

About the Registry

The American Bashkir Curly Registry (ABCR) began in 1971. At that time only 21 horses were registered. Today, American Bashkir Curly registrations span the globe.

The American Bashkir Curly Registry requires DNA testing to register any foal and registers only ABC registered to ABC registered Curly Horse.

**Breeder information can
be obtained by
contacting:**

**THE AMERICAN BASHKIR
CURLY REGISTRY**

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***AMERICAN
BASHKIR***



***CURLY
HORSES***

AMERICAN BASHKIR CURLY

“Where Did They Come From?”

The origin of the Curly Horse in America is a mystery. There is much speculation as to how they arrived in the American West. Nearly all that is known about curly horses today originates from the work of the Damele family of Nevada. Curly haired horses were found in the wild herds inhabiting their ranch.

Research has shown that the Curly Horse was not limited to Nevada. The Crow and Lakota Sioux had been capturing curly horses in the plains of South Dakota. The Sioux winter count of 1801 depicts the Sioux stealing curly horses from the Crow. In 1881, Chief Red Horse was persuaded to make some drawings of the Battle of the Little Bighorn. One of those pictures depicted an Indian riding a curly coated horse. Descendants of these horses can still be found in that region.

“Why Bashkir Curly?”

It was originally believed that the Russian Bashkir horse was the ancestor of the American Bashkir. The name American Bashkir Curly was adopted to distinguish between the two Bashkirs. With the advent of new technology, it is now known that the Russian Bashkir is unrelated to the American Bashkir horse. The name,

American Bashkir Curly, is maintained for public recognition.



“They Are More Than a Curly Coat

The curly hair of the American Bashkir Curly Horse is not typical horsehair but closely resembles mohair. It is also considered to be **hypoallergenic**. People who are allergic to straight haired breeds usually will not have a reaction to Curlies. The Registry has received many letters from grateful new horse owners who, before learning of the Curlies, thought they would never be able to own a horse.

The hair can actually be spun and woven into garments. The winter coat expresses itself in a variety of patterns commonly described as Marcel Wave, Crushed Velvet, Curl and Micro Curl. The summer coat also offers varieties ranging from smooth to wavy. The manes and tails vary from ringlets to dreadlocks.

“They Are Low Maintenance.”

American Bashkir Curly horses are easy keepers. They generally require little grain if kept on good pasture or hay. They also do very well living outdoors. They have hard feet that do not require shoes under normal circumstances.

“They Are Intelligent.”

Professional trainers like Anna Twinney who have worked with curly horses will testify to their intelligence and ease in handling. Internationally known trainers have used them very successfully in public clinics. Curlies usually have a calm temperament. They are often easy to handle making them a number one choice for beginners.

“They Are Versatile.”

Curly horses are versatile horses and are ridden in English, Western and Endurance Classes. They perform in the dressage and jump arenas. Curlies drive and make excellent trail horses. Therapeutic riding programs search out the Curly Horse for their quiet demeanor. They are regular participants in the annual Pasadena Tournament of Roses New Year’s Day Parade.

There are curly horses who have been recognized by National and International Organizations for outstanding achievement in the equine world. A curly horse named “Q Card” was inducted into the International Side Saddle Hall of Fame. “Spartnik”, another outstanding example of the Curly Breed, was the United States Dressage Federation Horse of the Year in 1996.

“They Are American Bashkir Curly Horses!”