American Paint Horse Association’s Guide to Registration
Contents
Coat Patterns ........................................
The American Paint Horse .....................
The History of APHA .............................
Coat Colors ........................................
Paint Horse Traits ..............................
Color Requirements ...........................
Bloodline Requirements ......................
Registering Your Paint Horse ..............
The Registration Application .............
Registration Photographs .................
Stallion Owner Responsibilities ..........
Rules for Embryo Transfer Foals ........
Rules for Foals from AI, Transported Semen 
Claiming a Racehorse ......................
Buyer Beware ..................................
Transfer Report ..............................
Parentage Verification ......................
Re-registration Certificates .............
Replacing Lost Certificates ..............
Changes to the Registration Certificate ..
Status Change: Breeding Stock to Regular Registry 
Leasing a Paint Horse .................
On-line Stallion Breeding Reports ..........
On-line Registration ......................

For more information on the American Paint Horse Association and what it can offer you, call (817) 834-2742, extension 788. Visit APHA's official Web site at apha.com.
The History of APHA

The American Paint Horse Association has come a long way since its formation in 1962. From only a few hundred horses listed at the end of that year, the registry has grown to include almost 800,000 American Paint Horses today. These registrations are now being recorded at the rate of about 50,000 each year, making APHA one of the fastest-growing breed registries in the world.

Because it was founded by horsemen and women who loved the ability and speed of the Western stock-type horse, but who also appreciated the extra eye-appeal of a colorful coat pattern, APHA’s heart lies in its members. That is why the association strives to develop and sponsor programs that reflect their interests and their love of the American Paint Horse.

Coat Patterns

When registering a horse, you need to determine the horse’s color pattern. Although there are many words (piebald, skewbald, Medicine Hat and others) used to describe the contrasting patterns of American Paint Horses, APHA uses only one of three terms: tobiano (pronounced: tow be yah’ no), overo (pronounced: oh vair’ oh), or tovero (pronounced: tow vair’ oh). These patterns are distinguished by the location of white on the horse, not by the color of the coat.

There are many exceptions and variations to these patterns, but as a rule the guidelines listed below define American Paint Horse color patterns.

**Tobiano**
- The dark color usually covers one or both of the horse’s flanks, and white crosses its back between its withers and tail.
- Generally, all four legs are white, at least below the hocks and knees.
- Generally, the spots are regular and distinct as ovals or round patterns that extend down over the neck and chest, giving the appearance of a shield.
- Head markings are like those of a solid-colored horse—solid or with a blaze, strip, star or snip.
- A tobiano may be either predominantly dark or white.
- The tail is often two colors.

**Overo**
- The white usually does not cross the horse’s back between its withers and its tail.
- Generally, at least one leg, and often all four legs, are dark.
- Generally, the white is irregular and rather scattered or splashy.
- Head markings are distinctive, often bald-faced, apron-faced or bonnet-faced.
- An overo horse may be either predominantly dark or white.
- The tail is usually one color.

**Tovero**
- These horses combine the characteristics of both tobianos and overos.
- Usually a tovero has more white than colored area. Some are nearly all white.
- Generally, all the contrasting markings are regular and distinct, appearing as ovals or round patterns that extend down over the neck and chest, giving the appearance of a shield.
- Usually, these horses have dark pigmentation around the ears, which may expand to cover the forehead and/or eyes.
- Toveros generally have contrasting color covering one or both flanks.
- They may have spots of varying size at the base of the tail.

To be eligible for registry with APHA, horses must meet both bloodline and color requirements. First, both a Paint’s sire and dam must be registered with the American Paint Horse Association, the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) or the Jockey Club (Thoroughbreds). Then, depending on the amount of white present on the horse, it is placed in either the Regular Registry or the Breeding Stock Registry.

To be eligible for the Regular Registry, the horse must exhibit a minimum amount of white hair over unpigmented skin within a prescribed zone and have at least one registered Paint parent. Horses with at least one Paint parent but lacking the required amount of white on their coat are placed in the Breeding Stock Registry.

The American Paint Horse

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Coat Colors

For new registrations, owners are asked to determine the color of their horse. APHA recognizes 16 coat colors. Use the descriptions in this handbook as a guide, keeping in mind that American Paint Horse colors and patterns come in all combinations.

• Bay Roan—The overall intermingling of white hairs with bay body color; head, lower legs, mane and tail are usually solid or darker in color; does not get progressively whiter with age.
• Bay—Body color reddish brown, with variations ranging from dark blood bay to light bay and usually distinguished by black mane and tail, ear tips and lower legs.
• Black—Entire coat, including muzzle, flanks and legs are black; color may fade when exposed to sun; could have rusty tinge during certain times of the year; foals may be an overall mousy gray, then shed to black.
• Blue Roan—The overall intermingling of white hairs with a black body color; head, lower legs, mane and tail are usually solid or darker in color; does not get progressively whiter with age.
• Brown—Body color brown or black, with light areas at muzzle, eyes, flank and inside upper legs; mane and tail usually black.
• Buckskin—Body color yellowish or gold; mane and tail black; lacks primitive markings.
• Chestnut—Body color dark red or brownish red;

variations range from very light to liver chestnut; liver chestnut can be distinguished from black or brown only by the bronze or copper highlights on the legs; mane and tail usually dark red or brownish red, but may be flaxen.
• Cremello—Double-dilute of chestnut/sorrel, resulting in body color; mane and tail of cream or off-white, with pale, pinkish skin; the coat has enough yellow hue to allow white markings to be visible; eyes are blue or amber.
• Dun—Diluted body color of yellowish or gold; mane and tail are black or brown; has dorsal stripe and usually zebra stripes on legs and transverse stripes over withers (hereafter called primitive markings).
• Gray—Dominant over all other color genes; born any color, with white hair progressively turning the coat whiter as the horse ages; dark skin; normally grays first around the eyes and behind ears.
• Grullo—A form of dun with body color smoky or mouse-colored (not a mixture of black and white hairs, but each hair mouse-colored); mane and tail black; has black primitive markings.
• Palomino—Diluted body color, varying from rich gold to pale yellow; mane and tail generally pale or off-white but may be same color as body (with nonblack points).
• Perlino—Double-dilute of bay/brown, resulting in body color of cream or off-white; lower legs, mane and tail a light rust or chocolate shade; skin is pinkish or gray; eyes are blue or amber; the coat has enough yellow hue to allow white markings to be visible.
• Red dun—A form of dun with body color yellowish or flesh-colored; mane and tail are red or reddish; has red or reddish primitive markings.
• Red Roan—The overall intermingling of white hairs with chestnut/sorrel body color; head, lower legs, mane and tail are usually sorrel or dark red; does not get progressively whiter with age.
• Sorrel—Body color reddish or copper-red; mane and tail usually the same color as the body, but may be flaxen or very dark brown.
Other Distinctive Markings

In addition to coat patterns and color, face markings and leg markings can be used to describe a Paint Horse.

**Dorsal Stripe**—a black, brown, red or gold stripe that follows the backbone.
**Flaxen**—a pale yellow color.
**Roan**—a uniform mixture of individual white and colored hairs. The roan is born roan or sheds to roan after the foal coat. In most cases, the color changes little after the initial shedding. However, they can look darker in the winter than they do in the summer.

**Transverse Stripe**—a stripe across the withers; associated with the dun gene.
**Zebra Stripe**—a horizontal stripe or darker patch above the knees and hocks; associated with the dun gene.
**Bald Face**—a very broad blaze that can extend around the eyes, down to the upper lip and around the nostrils.
**Blaze**—a broad, vertical white marking extending the length of the face.
**Snip**—any white marking, usually vertical, between the nostrils.
**Star**—any white marking on the forehead.
**Strip**—a narrow, white marking extending vertically in the area between the forehead and nostrils.
**Star and Snip**—white marking on forehead with strip to nasal peak. Snip does not have to be an extension of the star.
**Star, Strip and Snip**—a white marking on the forehead, with a strip to the nasal peak and opening up again between the nostrils.
**Coronet**—a narrow white marking above the hoof and covering the coronet band.
**Half-pastern**—a white marking extending from the top of the hoof up to and including half of the pastern.
**Pastern**—a white band that includes the coronet and the pastern.
**Ankle**—a white marking extending from the top of the hoof to the top of the ankle.
**Sock**—a white marking extending from the top of the hoof to halfway up the cannon bone on the foreleg, or halfway to the hock on the back of the leg.
**Half-stocking**—a white marking extending from the top of the hoof to the midway point of the cannon bone.
**Stocking**—a full white marking to the knee on the foreleg and to the hock on the hind leg.

Paint Horse Traits

The following characteristics are considered additional Paint Horse traits. These characteristics alone do not qualify a horse for the Regular Registry.

- White leg markings extending above the knees and/or hocks.
- Glass, blue or “watch” eye(s).
- Apron or bald face, described as white hair falling outside a line from the inside corner of the eye to the inside corner of the nostril.
- White on the jaw or lower lip.
- Blue zone around a natural Paint marking.
- Two-color mane, one color being white.
- Dark spots or freckles in white hair on the face or legs.
- White areas in the non-visible zone, excluding the head, completely surrounded by a contrasting color.
- A contrasting area of another color in the non-visible zone including the head, on a predominantly white horse.

Color Requirements

If a horse does not have sufficient white hair with underlying unpigmented skin to be included in the Regular Registry, but meets all other requirements, then the horse may be registered in the Breeding Stock Registry. This registry is provided to record the pedigrees of quality breeding stallions and mares that lack only sufficient color. For the most part, horses registered in the Breeding Stock Registry are not allowed to compete against Regular Registry Paints. Exceptions are listed in the APHA Official Rule Book.

Horses eligible for the Breeding Stock Registry and listing in the APHA stud book include:

- Solid-colored foals resulting from a mating between two registered American Paint Horses.
- Solid-colored foals resulting from a mating between a registered Paint and a registered Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred.
- Geldings that qualify for the Breeding Stock Registry are granted “Identification Status.” This status is given because geldings cannot be used for breeding. Also, this rule applies to Breeding Stock stallions that are gelded after they are registered.
**Bloodline Requirements**

A horse's bloodlines must be verified before it is eligible for registration with APHA. Remember, an American Paint must be the result of a mating between two Paint parents, or between one Paint parent and one Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred parent.

**Paint-to-Paint mating**

You can fulfill the bloodline requirement for a foal resulting from a cross between two Paint parents with a completed registration application. The Breeder's Certificate portion of the application should be completed and signed by the recorded stallion owner at the time the mare is bred.

**Paint-to-Quarter Horse or Paint-to-Thoroughbred mating**

To fulfill the bloodline requirement for a foal resulting from a cross between one Paint parent and one Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred parent, you must prove parentage to APHA by providing the following information:

- A valid Breeder's Certificate completed by the recorded owner of the stallion at the time of breeding.
- A copy of both sides of the dam's AQHA or Jockey Club registration certificate.

The stallion owner must submit:

- APHA Stallion Listing and fee.
- The Stallion Breeding Report and fees.
- A DNA Genetic Marker Report.
- Quarter Horse and Thoroughbred stallions must have an APHA Stallion Listing Card. (See page 9 for details.)

**Color Requirements**

In addition to the bloodline requirement, all American Paint Horses in the Regular Registry meet a minimum color requirement. Paint Horses that are predominantly colored must have a definite "natural" Paint marking. A "natural" Paint marking is an area of solid white hair with some underlying, unpigmented skin. When the horse has a predominantly white hair coat, it must have a contrasting area of color with some underlying, pigmented skin.

The contrasting areas should be visible at the time the foal is born and at the time of registration. The size and location of that area are critical to registration. The amount of white on the horse determines its eligibility for either the Regular or Breeding Stock Registry.

To be eligible for the Regular Registry, the foal must have at least one "natural" Paint marking that is more than 2 inches in diameter. The contrasting spot need not be visible when the horse is standing. The spot must be located on the horse's body or legs, and within the unshaded area as illustrated.

Reference Point 1 refers to an area from the base of the ear forward horizontally to the base of the opposite ear; from the base of the ear to the corner of the mouth; from the corner of the mouth, under the chin, to the opposite corner of the mouth; to the base of the ear. The qualifying spot cannot fall in this area.

Reference Point 2 refers to the area above a level line around the leg, midway between the center of the knee and the floor of the chest. The qualifying spot must be above this line.

Reference Point 3 refers to the area above the point represented by a level line around the leg, midway between the point of the hock and the center point of the stifle. The qualifying spot must be above this line.

If the horse to be registered has only a high stocking (extending above Reference Point 2 or 3) or an extended face marking that goes beyond Reference Point 1, then it must exhibit one additional Paint trait to be eligible for the Regular Registry. An additional trait is also required if the qualifying spot is not connected to a stocking and occurs between the center of the knee and Reference Point 2, or between the point of the hock and Reference Point 3.

**Registering Your Paint Horse**

Several documents must be provided by the foal and mare owner, as well as the stallion owner, for the horse to be considered for registration with the American Paint Horse Association.

**Foal and mare owner's responsibility:**

- A completed registration application.
- Four clear, close photographs of the horse (see page 7).
- Registration fees.
- An APHA Membership Number (optional).
- A copy of both sides of the AQHA or Jockey Club registration certificate if the dam is a Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred.

**Stallion owner's responsibility:**

- Stallion Listing Fee.
- Stallion Breeding Report (SBR) and fees.
- Stallion's DNA Genetic Marker Report.
- Quarter Horse and Thoroughbred stallion owners must also file a Stallion Listing Card.

For an in-depth look at these requirements, refer to page 9.
The Registration Application

The most important document you may ever complete as a horse owner is a registration application. Completing this form accurately the first time may save you hours of additional work as you attempt to register a foal. Keep in mind that giving false information to the association may carry severe penalties.

The owner or lessee of the dam at the time of foaling is responsible for registering the foal. This person is automatically recorded as the original owner of the foal on the registration application and certificate. If the application is accompanied by a signed transfer, the new owner will be contacted for more information, if needed.

You may either complete a printed registration application or submit one on-line.

Horse Information

The top portion of the registration application asks for basic information about the horse. As most horses are registered when they are foals, we will use the terms “horse” and “foal” in this section.

1. List three name choices in the spaces provided. Punctuation marks, numbers, Roman numerals or profanity in the name are not allowed. The name may not exceed the number of spaces on the application. No two horses registered by the association may have the same name or a name that sounds similar. If APHA determines that your choice is too similar to another name already in use, your choice will be disqualified and the processing of your application may be delayed.

APHA will name the horse unless the box is checked not to. This helps avoid delays. If you check this box and your three selections are rejected, you will receive a letter asking for another choice.

2. Check the appropriate box to indicate the sex of your horse. If you are registering a gelding, you need to give the exact date (month/day/year) the horse was gelded.

3. List the month, day and year on which the foal was born. This date should correspond to the breeding dates listed in the Breeder’s Certificate portion of the registration application. The average gestation period for a horse is 11.5 months (345 days). If you do not know the exact date of birth, estimate the foaling date.

You can save yourself potential delays by comparing the breeding dates to the foaling date. One of the most frequent registration delays occurs when these dates do not correspond.

4. List the state, province or country in which your horse was foaled. If omitted, APHA records that the horse was foaled in the state or country in which the mare owner resides. This may be important if your state, province or country offers incentive programs for breeders.

5. Next, check which breeding method was used for the mare to conceive this foal.

6. Check the box that best describes the primary color of your horse. Use the color descriptions in this handbook to help you identify the color. If your horse is predominantly white, check the color that best describes the horse’s contrasting spot. Do not use “white” as the color of your horse. Regardless of the amount of color, Paint color is always determined by the dark hair, never by the white. Of course, it is possible that your horse is solid white. In this case, your horse may be eligible for the Breeding Stock Registry. Please also indicate the color of the mane and tail.

7. Check the box that best describes your horse’s coat pattern: tobiano, overo, tovero or solid. If you are unsure, leave this space blank. The association’s Registration Department staff will determine the coat pattern for you after reviewing the photos.

8. In the space provided, indicate any brands or scars that could be used to identify the foal. If your horse is freeze-branded, send a photograph of that brand with your application. That information will become a permanent part of your horse’s file.

9. Does this horse have blue eyes? Check the appropriate box(es): no, right eye blue, right eye partial blue, left eye blue, or left eye partial blue.

The Breeder’s Certificate

The bottom half of the Registration Application is the Breeder’s Certificate. Some information in this section may be pre-printed, based on information provided by the stallion owner on the Stallion Breeding Report. You must have the recorded stallion owner at the time of breeding sign the Breeder’s Certificate or release the breeding on-line before the foal can be registered.

1. The stallion owner should clearly print the name and registration number of the sire of the foal. Directly underneath is a space for information about the sire’s color and type. As this information is listed on the sire’s registration certificate, the stallion owner should have no trouble completing these sections.

2. The stallion owner should provide the same information on the dam, including her registered name, identification number, color and type. If the dam is a Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred, include a copy of both sides of the AQHA or Jockey Club registration certificate.

3. The application requires the sire and dam owners’ names, member identification numbers and addresses at the time of service. The owner or lessee of the dam at the time of breeding is considered the “breeder” and is recorded as such on the registration certificate.

4. The stallion owner must include all of the breeding dates or the period of exposure. Keep in mind that the mare may have been bred more than once to get her in foal. Therefore, the dates should include the period of time between the first and last exposure. If the mare was pasture-bred, the dates should begin with the day the mare was first turned into the pasture with the sire, as well as the date she was removed. These dates must match the dates listed on the Stallion Breeding Report or there may be delays in processing the application.

5. The owner of the stallion at the time of breeding must sign the Breeder’s Certificate. By signing this document, the stallion owner
The Registration Application (continued)

certifies that the information on the Breeder's Certificate is correct and that the mare owner's responsibilities on the breeding contract have been satisfied.

6. APHA rules state that the original owner of the foal is the record owner or lessee of the mare at the time of foaling. This person should complete and sign as owner of the dam at time of foaling. By signing this certificate, the mare owner guarantees that the information is accurate to the best of his or her knowledge. Please provide a current mailing address, as well.

If you buy the foal from the mare owner, you need to get that person to sign the application here and on the transfer portion on the back of the application.

Transfer

If you are not the original owner of the foal, you need to transfer ownership from the owner or lessee of the mare at the time of foaling to yourself. To do this, you must complete the transfer of ownership portion at the top of the back side of the form and pay the appropriate transfer fee. A transfer is simple to complete. As the buyer, you need to provide the foal information, your name, your APHA identification number, your telephone number and your current address. Though membership is not required to transfer ownership, substantial higher fees are charged to non-members. If you are not a member and choose to not become a member, simply include, along with your application, a signed statement to that effect and pay the higher fees. Be sure to call or check on line for the higher fees.

To complete the transfer, you need to record the date of the sale and get the signature of the owner of the dam at the time of foaling. Remember, the owner of the dam at the time of foaling is automatically the original owner of the foal. If you have purchased the foal from the dam owner prior to the foal's registration, you must transfer ownership into your name.

To avoid delays in processing, be sure you get the mare owner's signature on the transfer report.

Breeders Trust

The American Paint Horse Breeders Trust Program provides added incentives for Paint Horse owners to exhibit their horses in the show arena. Nominated horses are paid cash dividends for points earned at APHA-approved events, and everyone responsible for the success of an outstanding foal is rewarded. The stallion owner, foal nominator and horse's owner all share in the profit. By completing this section and submitting the appropriate fees, you can nominate a foal that was sired by a stallion subscribed to the Trust. For more information about Breeders Trust or to see if your horse's sire is subscribed, call the Breeders Trust Coordinator at (817) 834-2742, extension 416.

DNA Kit Request

All foals conceived by shipped or frozen semen, or embryo or oocyte transfer must be DNA tested. To request a DNA kit, complete the questions in this section of the form, or call the APHA Field Services Department at (817) 834-2742, extension 777.

Fee Schedule

Consult the current APHA Official Rule Book to determine which fees are required to register the horse. The fee schedule is based on the age of the horse and whether or not the horse owner is an APHA member. Other fees, such as a transfer fee, may also be required. As fees are subject to change without notice, you should consult the current year's APHA Official Rule Book to determine the fees.

You may pay by check, money order, VISA or MasterCard. Applications received without payment may be returned.

Fees are based on the horse's age

All horses are aged by the calendar year, starting January 1. Therefore, a horse is considered a weanling during the year in which it was born. On January 1 after the foal is born, that horse becomes a yearling, regardless of how many months old it actually is. Subsequently, the horse ages by one year every January 1, regardless of the time of year in which it was actually born.

Membership fees

Membership is not a requirement to register a horse, but non-members pay higher registration fees. To avoid paying these higher fees, indicate your membership in the exact name, partnership name or corporate name as it is to appear on the application for registration. If you are not a member, you may join at the time you register the horse and receive reduced rates.

Signatures

The most frequently made mistakes that result in a processing delay involve the wrong signatures. Read the instructions carefully to make sure you are getting the correct signature in the proper place.

The owner or any one of the joint owners of a horse can sign the application. Printed signatures are not acceptable. Whoever signs the application must sign with an individual written signature. For example, the foal may be registered to “John and Mary Jones.” The APHA membership must be carried as “John and Mary Jones.” However, the application must be signed by “John Jones” or “Mary Jones.” No other variations on the signature are acceptable.

In the event that the horse you want to register is owned by a farm, partnership or corporation, a signature authorization must be on file with APHA. This authorization helps protect your ownership by making sure that only those authorized are allowed to register, transfer or conduct business for that entity.

A registration application cannot be completed until this authorization is filed. Signature authorization forms are available through APHA. Consult a current APHA Official Rule Book for the appropriate fee.
Registration Photographs

One of the most important things you will be asked to provide when you register a horse is photographs. Applications received without photos may be returned. All registration applications must include at least four photos: right side, left side, front and rear. Photos are required with all applications, including Breeding Stock. Color photos are preferred, but black and white prints are acceptable. All photos are permanently filed with APHA.

Tips for photographing your horse

- Speed up the registration process by providing good photos. Take a few minutes to clean and groom your horse. Excessively long hair, dirt and mud detract from white markings and may delay processing of your paperwork. Fractions of an inch may mean the difference between Regular or Breeding Stock registration, so on a minimal-white horse it is important that the area of contrasting color be thoroughly cleaned before beginning the photo session.

- Fill the frame with your horse, without cropping out any body parts such as hooves or ears. Photos taken at a great distance from the horse are usually not acceptable. For example, you cannot take an acceptable photo of a horse that is loose and running in a pasture.

- If the “natural” Paint marking that you think qualifies the horse for the Regular Registry is of minimal size or is not clearly visible in the four required photos, you must submit additional photos to document the spot. These photos must be detailed enough to prove the horse meets APHA’s color requirements. Refer to the Photographing minimal body white sidebar below.

- If your horse is roan, gray, white or palomino, good photos are more difficult to take. Thoroughly wetting the horse may help distinguish white markings.

- Take several of each type of shot. Move the camera slightly and refocus, remembering to keep the area being photographed in the best light possible. Using fill-flash helps illuminate the underside of a horse.

- Do not trim or mark on the image. Write the subject’s dam’s name and its foaling year on a self-adhesive label and stick that on the back of the photo.

- Give yourself every advantage by standing your horse squarely when you take the photos.

- Be sure the reference points are clearly seen in the photo. Position the ruler or tape measure next to the qualifying area to show its size.

- Take photos in the morning or late afternoon. Keep the sun to your back so the subject is well illuminated.

If you have any questions about the photos needed to register your horse, call APHA at (817) 834-2742, extension 788.

Photographing minimal body white

These photos show how the basic shots needed to register your horse should look.

Photographs of small qualifying spots on a horse’s body must be sharp, clear close-ups. Because these spots are sometimes found on difficult-to-see areas, such as the horse’s abdomen, photos may prove difficult to get without first tranquilizing the horse.

The Registration Department requires three photos of the qualifying body spot on your horse.

Photo 1: This shot is a close-up of the qualifying spot. The photo must clearly show the outside perimeter of the white spot. If the horse is wearing a thick winter coat, you must clip the long hair so the edges of the spot are clearly seen. Don’t completely remove all the hair yet.

Photo 2: This photograph shows the dimensions of the spot when compared to a ruler or tape measure. According to the APHA rulebook, for inclusion in the Regular Registry a horse must have a body spot exceeding two inches in diameter. The spot can be round, vertical or horizontal. Long hair should be clipped, so that the perimeter of the spot is clearly visible. If using a ruler or tape measure, be sure the numbers are clearly in focus and are easily read.

Photo 3: This shot is a close-up of the skin underneath the white spot. (Be sure that an adequate number of photos have been taken of the spot, and of the spot with the measuring device, before shaving the hair. Once the hair has been shaved, the spot will not be visible until the hair grows back.) Remember that for a spot to be a qualifying area, there must be unpigmented skin under it.

Send these photos in with your original four registration photos.
Photographing minimal leg white

Leg white can satisfy the APHA Regular Registry color requirement, but the white must fall in quite specific areas. Consequently, when basing registration on leg white, photos must clearly show both the qualifying white and the reference points used by the Registration Department.

High Front Leg White—Front leg white must extend more than two inches either horizontally or vertically above a horizontal line drawn around the leg midway between the center of the knee and the floor of the chest. Be sure that the photo shows the floor of the horse’s chest and the horse’s knee, the reference points the Registration Department uses to determine qualification.

High Hind Leg White—The procedure for photographing high hind leg white is the same as for the front leg. However, the reference points change on the back leg. It is important to make sure your photos clearly show both the hind leg’s reference points and the qualifying area.

Disconnected Spot on the Rear Leg—The reference line from the base of the ear to the corner of the mouth is drawn, in a more forward position. Place the ruler, or any type of measuring instrument that clearly shows inch designations, in proximity to the face white to indicate length or width.

Once the Registration Department receives this photo, the reference lines will be drawn and checked to see that the white extends—either horizontally or vertically—for more than two inches above the line. Do not draw the reference lines yourself.

Disconnected Spot on the Front Leg—The reference line used to determine if a disconnected spot on the front leg is a qualifying area runs through the center of the knee, parallel to the ground.

As with the disconnected spot on the front leg, a spot on the rear leg must extend more than two inches either vertically above or horizontally along the reference line.

Disconnected Spot on the Rear Leg—The reference line for the rear leg is drawn through the point of the hock and parallel to the ground.

When taking this photo, give yourself every advantage and stand the horse squarely. Get down on your knee so that the camera is about level with the center of the horse’s leg. Be sure that the photo shows the floor of the horse’s chest and the horse’s knee, the reference points the Registration Department uses to determine qualification. Place a ruler with easily seen numbers in close proximity to the leg white. If you are basing registration on horizontal leg white, it may be more convenient to use a flexible cloth measuring tape.

Disconnected Spot on the Rear Leg—The reference points change on the back leg. It is important to make sure your photos clearly show both the hind leg’s reference points and the qualifying area.

On the back leg, the qualifying white must extend more than two inches beyond a horizontal line that falls midway between the point of the hock and the fullest point of the stifle joint.

Disconnected spot leg white

A disconnected spot on a horse’s leg may qualify the animal for inclusion in APHA’s Regular Registry. As the name implies, a disconnected spot is not attached to any other white marking on the horse’s leg, but instead is completely surrounded by darker-colored hair.

Use either the ruler or a flexible measuring tape to document the size of the spot.

Disconnected Spot on the Front Leg—The reference line used to determine if a disconnected spot is a qualifying area runs through the center of the knee, parallel to the ground.

To be a qualifying area, a spot on the front leg must measure in excess of two inches, either vertically above or horizontally along the reference line.

Disconnected Spot on the Rear Leg—The reference line for the rear leg is drawn through the point of the hock and parallel to the ground.

As with the disconnected spot on the front leg, a spot on the rear leg must extend more than two inches either vertically above or horizontally along the reference line.

Measuring White from a Blaze—The white from a blaze must extend beyond a reference line drawn from the base of the ear to the corner of the mouth. The white past the reference line must measure more than two inches either horizontally or vertically.

Photos showing face white must be taken directly from the side. Only one of the horse’s eyes should be visible. If there is any long hair distorting the face white, it should be removed.

To give yourself every advantage, be sure the horse has its ears forward when you take the photo. This puts the base of the ear, the point from which the reference line is drawn, in a more forward position. Place the ruler, or any type of measuring instrument that clearly shows inch designations, in proximity to the face white to indicate length or width.

Once the Registration Department receives this photo, the reference line described earlier is drawn and checked to see that the white extends—either horizontally or vertically—for more than two inches once it passes the line. Do not draw the reference line yourself.

White Extending from the Chin—When measuring white on a Paint’s chin, the reference line from the base of the ear to the corner of the mouth is drawn, then that line is extended from the corner of the mouth, under the chin, to the opposite corner of the mouth. This line falls about where a curb strap lies. In this area of the horse’s face, the white must extend more than two inches either horizontally along the reference line, or vertically toward the horse’s body.

The rules for taking these photos are the same as those mentioned earlier. Because the base of the ear and the corner of the mouth are such vital reference points, be sure they are both clearly visible in the photos you send.

Photographing minimal face white

The white on a horse’s face can be a qualifying spot, allowing the animal to be registered in the Regular Registry. However, as with body spots on minimal-white horses, face white must meet specific requirements to qualify.

Once the Registration Department receives this photo, the reference lines will be drawn and checked to see that the white extends—either horizontally or vertically—for more than two inches above the line. Do not draw the reference lines yourself.

High Hind Leg White—The procedure for photographing high hind leg white is the same as for the front leg. However, the reference points change on the back leg. It is important to make sure your photos clearly show both the hind leg’s reference points and the qualifying area.

On the back leg, the qualifying white must extend more than two inches beyond a horizontal line that falls midway between the point of the hock and the fullest point of the stifle joint.

Disconnected spot leg white

A disconnected spot on a horse’s leg may qualify the animal for inclusion in APHA’s Regular Registry. As the name implies, a disconnected spot is not attached to any other white marking on the horse’s leg, but instead is completely surrounded by darker-colored hair.

Use either the ruler or a flexible measuring tape to document the size of the spot.

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To be a qualifying area, a spot on the front leg must measure in excess of two inches, either vertically above or horizontally along the reference line.

Disconnected Spot on the Rear Leg—The reference line for the rear leg is drawn through the point of the hock and parallel to the ground.

As with the disconnected spot on the front leg, a spot on the rear leg must extend more than two inches either vertically above or horizontally along the reference line.

Photographing minimal face white

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The rules for taking these photos are the same as those mentioned earlier. Because the base of the ear and the corner of the mouth are such vital reference points, be sure they are both clearly visible in the photos you send.
Stallion Owner Responsibilities

Electing to stand your American Paint Horse stallion brings several responsibilities. A stallion, particularly a popular stallion, can cover many mares in one breeding season. Therefore, one stallion may have a larger impact on the entire breed within a single generation than will a mare. Because your stallion has this potential for influencing the registry, APHA requires integrity in record-keeping and reporting. The association has special forms and reports designed to assist you in recording the bloodlines of the breed.

Documents required by every stallion owner include:
- Stallion Listings
- Stallion Breeding Reports (SBR)
- Stallion DNA Genetic Marker Testing/Blood Typing
- Breeder's Certificates

Submitting a Stallion Breeding Report

The second item you need to submit is a Stallion Breeding Report (SBR). This form is a listing of all mares your stallion was exposed to during a breeding year, including the dates of exposure.

Every breeding stallion must have an SBR on file. SBRs are required for all registered Paint stallions exposed to registered Paint, Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred mares. The same applies to Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred stallions exposed to Paint mares.

Until an SBR is filed, offspring from that stallion cannot be registered. The report and annual filing fee must be completed each breeding season, and the deadline is November 30 of the breeding year. APHA assesses a late fee for all reports and fees postmarked after November 30.

The Stallion Breeding Report, which is available from APHA, includes the following information:
- The stallion’s registered name and registration number.
- A complete list of all Paint, Quarter Horse and Thoroughbred mares (even those that do not conceive) exposed to the stallion, including the mares’ names, numbers, owners and dates of breeding.
- Method of breeding for each mare.
- Space for stallion owner to initial a Release of Breeding, allowing mare owner to register the foal on-line or without additional documentation.
- Written signature of the stallion owner or authorized agent and a current address.

Listing your stallion

The first thing APHA requires of you as a stallion owner is a listing. Whether your stallion is an American Paint Horse, a Quarter Horse or a Thoroughbred, if your intent is to stand that stallion, then you must list him. No foal produced by your stallion can be registered until the stallion is listed. Listing serves the purpose of declaring your intent to breed.

If you intend to purchase a stallion and stand him for breeding purposes, call APHA's Customer Service Department. We can verify whether or not the stallion is already listed or needs to be listed.

Listing your Paint stallion is easy. Simply pay the one-time listing fee to record the stallion as an eligible sire. This one-time payment is good for the life of the stallion. Consult the current APHA Official Rule Book to determine the appropriate fee.

To list Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred stallions, you must provide the association with the following:
- Stallion Listing Card signed by the recorded owner.
- A copy of both sides of the stallion’s AQHA or Jockey Club registration certificate showing the owner and bloodlines.
- Stallion listing fee.
- A copy of the stallion’s DNA Genetic Marker Report.

If you have purchased a Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred stallion that is already listed, all you need to do is file with APHA a listing card bearing your signature, along with a copy of the registration certificate showing the updated owner information. There is no charge for this. Remember that the record owner of the stallion at the time of service and the name of the owner listed on the stallion’s registration certificate must match.
Filing DNA and Blood Type Testing

All owners of breeding stallions—Paint, Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred—are required to file with APHA a written report of the stallion’s DNA genetic markers. The test must be obtained from a laboratory approved by APHA and following association procedures. All Paint stallions must be tested through the association. Owners can order a DNA Hair Sample Kit through the APHA Field Services Department. The genetic marker test is included in the kit's cost. The genetic information becomes a permanent part of the stallion’s file, so even if ownership changes, you are not required to repeat the test.

If you stand a Quarter Horse whose blood type or DNA genotype is already on file with AQHA, write to that association and request that they send APHA a copy of the test results. We accept their results and place them on file at no charge to you.

We also accept test results on file with the Jockey Club, although obtaining copies is more complicated. Before the Jockey Club releases the test results for a Thoroughbred stallion, they require that APHA submit a written authorization letter from the recorded horse owner, giving APHA permission to use the results on file with the Jockey Club. Send your letter to the APHA Field Services Department. We will forward your letter along with a request for a copy of the results on file. When APHA receives the horses results, they are filed at no charge to you.

Issuing Breeder’s Certificates

Breeder’s Certificates are issued by the stallion owner. APHA pre-prints the information found in the Breeder’s Certificate portion of the Registration Application, based upon information provided in Stallion Breeding Reports. These pre-printed forms are then mailed to stallion owners. The stallion owner can then sign that Registration Application and give it to the mare owner to use when the time comes to register the new foal with APHA.

If the stallion owner does not have a pre-printed application, blank Breeder’s Certificate forms, which are actually part of the Registration Application, are available from APHA. If you are the record owner of both the sire and dam at the time of breeding and foaling, you do not need to submit a separate Breeder’s Certificate. However, you must provide information about the sire and dam on the registration application.

One of the most important parts of the Breeder’s Certificate is the listing of the dates during which the mare was exposed to the stallion.

Because the integrity of the information provided on the Breeder’s Certificate and Stallion Breeding Report is so important to the association’s goal of preserving bloodlines, serious penalties may be assessed if false information is given on one of these forms.

Also, if a valid Breeder’s Certificate is issued and submitted with a Registration Application, a stallion owner may be suspended if a Stallion Breeding Report has not been properly filed and the appropriate fees paid.

Before you issue a Breeder’s Certificate, double-check that the following information is included on the report:

• Correct dates. The dates on the Breeder’s Certificate and the Stallion Breeding Report must match. If the dates do not match, APHA may require a corrected Breeder’s Certificate or Stallion Breeding Report.

• Correct signature. The Breeder’s Certificate must be signed by the record owner of the sire at time of service. If the stallion is jointly owned, the APHA will accept the signature of any one of the joint owners, if that individual is named on the sire’s current registration certificate or is authorized to sign via the Stallion Listing Card or a Signature Authorization Card.

• Multiple stallions. If a mare is serviced by more than one stallion, a complete Breeder’s Certificate for each stallion must be submitted to APHA. If the mare was exposed to more than one stallion, the owner of the foal may be required to verify parentage through DNA genetic testing of the mare, foal and stallions.

• Alterations. Altered Breeder’s Certificates are not accepted, other than address corrections. For example, if a pre-printed Breeder’s Certificate has an error in the sire, dam or breeding dates, you may not correct that error. The stallion owner must complete a new one. Issuing the Breeder’s Certificate is at the discretion of the stallion owner. By issuing the Breeder’s Certificate, the stallion owner attests that all of the mare owner’s obligations have been met and the foal may be registered. Contractual disputes between stallion and mare owners must be resolved between the individuals themselves without the benefit of APHA intervention.

Rules for Foals from AI, Transported semen

In the case of artificial insemination, the semen must be used to inseminate a mare at the collection site within 24 hours following collection. The foal owner does not need to supply any additional information to complete the registration process.

Before a foal conceived through the use of transported cooled or frozen semen can be registered, the following criteria must be met:

• Prior to breeding the mare, the stallion owner must have applied for a Transported Cooled and/or Frozen Semen Permit and paid the appropriate fee.

• Both the stallion owner and mare owners must have completed and mailed their portions of the collection-insemination certificates.

• DNA genetic marker reports for both the dam and foal must be filed with APHA, as parentage verification of the foal will be required prior to registration.

Rules for Embryo Transfer Foals

Any American Paint Horse, Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred mare is eligible for embryo transfer. There is no limit on the number of registrations in a calendar year of foals produced by embryo transfer.

APHA reserves the right to inspect the premises and practices of any party using or intending to use embryo-transfer procedures.

If you intend to produce a foal using embryo transfer technology, be sure you have completed the following steps:

• Provide APHA with written notification of your intent to perform embryo transfer at least 15 days prior to the transfer. Include the name and registration number of the donor mare, the breeding stallion, and the name and location of the organization doing the transfer.

• Pay the appropriate fees.

• Complete the transfer within 72 hours of the recovery if the transfer is conducted on the premises where the embryo was collected.

• An APHA representative or approved veterinarian must be present during the collection and transfer procedure.

• The pedigree of the foal must be certified through DNA genetic testing. You are responsible for all expenses.
Parentage Verification

If there is reason to question the parentage of a foal, APHA may require verification of parentage, also called pedigree certification. In such a case, the owner of the foal is required to pay for the foal and dam to be tested for DNA genetic markers. APHA requires that all breeding stallions be tested for DNA genetic markers. However, it is possible that a stallion might not have this report recorded with APHA, in which case the foal owner is responsible for getting the stallion's DNA genetic markers report filed, as well.

An example of when parentage might be called into question is when a tobiano foal does not have a tobiano parent. As it is genetically impossible for two overo-patterned Paints to produce a tobiano-patterned foal, the parentage would be in question. The first step APHA takes in such a case is to request photographs of the parents. If the pictures show that one parent is a tobiano, the registration process can continue.

If both parents are clearly overos, then DNA genetic testing is required. If the tests fail to verify that the parents listed on the application are the correct parents, then the foal is declared ineligible for registration until the foal owner can prove parentage.

Transfer Report

If you buy a registered American Paint Horse, the first thing we suggest you do is transfer the ownership into your name. This process is much like getting a title transferred when you purchase a car.

You should transfer the horse as soon as possible after purchase. Delays increase the possibility of lost paperwork or problems with reaching the seller if additional information is necessary.

If you buy the horse at a public auction or from an APHA member, chances are excellent that the seller will provide a transfer form. In fact, at public auctions the sale manager is responsible for getting the required signature on the transfer report. If the seller of a registered horse fails to sign the transfer, he or she may be assessed a penalty and the violation of APHA rules will be published in the association's official publication, the *Paint Horse Journal*.

In an emergency, you may pay a rush fee to get the transfer processed more quickly than the normal processing time.

How to fill out the transfer report

- Request a transfer report from APHA if one is not on the back of the horse's official registration paper. Complete the form, making sure you have the signature of the seller, and submit the form to APHA.
- Pay the transfer fee as published in a current APHA *Official Rule Book*. Please note that APHA members receive substantially reduced fees on all association services.
- Submit the original registration certificate to APHA.
- APHA automatically mails the certificate to the buyer's address listed on the transfer. If you need the certificate mailed to a different address, please sign a statement with these instructions.

Buyer Beware

To help you avoid problems after you buy a horse, APHA recommends you check the following items before the purchase:

- Be sure the photograph or painted markings (in the case of older registration certificates) on the original registration certificate match those of the horse you are buying. If the markings do not match, contact APHA.
- Be sure the seller is the current owner of the horse according to the horse's papers. You can verify this by calling APHA. If the horse has been sold previously and the ownership not transferred, it may be difficult to update the ownership record. A transfer report with the correct signature and fee must be submitted for each change in ownership.
- To avoid potential problems, do not accept an incomplete or “open” transfer. You should deal directly with the current owner of the horse and wait for the transfer history to be completed before you purchase the horse. The association strives to record changes in ownership accurately and will not skip owners.
- APHA does not accept a transfer that has been altered. Any erasure or alteration results in delays while APHA verifies the information. In most cases, a new transfer report with the correct information and signature is required. To correct the date of sale on a transfer recorded with APHA, the association requires signed statements from both buyer and seller.

Claiming a Racehorse

When a horse is claimed at a recognized track, the racing secretary collects a transfer fee from the claimant. This fee is forwarded to the association with the registration certificate, a written report of the race, and the name and address of the member claiming the horse. Upon receipt of the fee, certificate and report, the association transfers the horse without requiring a transfer report signed by the owner.
Status Change: Breeding Stock to Regular Registry

Occasionally, a foal with only a small spot will be registered as Breeding Stock. As the foal grows, so may the spot, eventually growing large enough to qualify the horse for inclusion in the Regular Registry. In such cases, the owner of the foal may apply for a status change.

The owner of the foal must provide APHA with the following items before the status change can be processed:

• Original Breeding Stock registration certificate.
• Photographs clearly showing the area that might qualify the horse for inclusion in the Regular Registry. Photos should include a close-up of the qualifying marking that clearly shows the size of the spot in question and the underlying, unpigmented skin. A side-view photo for the new certificate is also needed.
• Status change fee, as published in a current APHA Official Rule Book. If APHA determines that the change in the qualifying area is not sufficient to change the status of the horse, the fee, less a processing fee, will be refunded. If the foal is approved for inclusion in the Regular Registry, a new certificate will be issued by APHA.

Changes to the Registration Certificate

Within 30 days of the time the registration certificate is mailed from the association’s office, you may return it for corrections. You must document the changes you request. During this grace period there is no fee for documented changes. Therefore, it is important that you take time to verify all information on your registration certificate as soon as you receive it. After 30 days, the association charges a fee to correct a certificate. Name changes and changes of sire or dam are not considered corrections.

Name Changes

Once a horse has been registered, changing its name is discouraged. One of the purposes of the registry is to record bloodlines and performance records. If the name of a horse was changed at the whim of each new owner, it could become quite difficult to maintain the integrity of those records. A name may be changed by submitting a name change request and the appropriate fee. However, under no circumstances may a horse’s name be changed once it has done one of the following:

• Started on an APHA-recognized track.
• Performed in an APHA-approved show or contest and earned one or more points, been named Grand or Reserve Champion, or earned a show record based on class wins.
• Compiled a record in non-point earning programs recognized by APHA such as, but not limited to, PAC or Ride America®.
• Sired or produced registered offspring.

Replacing Lost Certificates

A duplicate certificate is a new registration certificate that is issued when the original has been lost or destroyed. It may be issued when sufficient proof of loss and proper identification of the horse have been submitted to the association. To get a duplicate certificate, you must file a notarized affidavit that explains the circumstances under which the original certificate was lost or destroyed. The affidavit must be accompanied by two current photographs, one of each side of the horse, and the appropriate fee.

Re-registration Certificates

If you have a registration certificate that contains incorrect information regarding the sire, dam or foaling year, you must apply for a re-registration certificate.

The following information is required before APHA can issue a re-registration certificate:

• A new, completed registration application.
• Notarized statement from the owner of the dam at time of foaling. (This may be a lessee or authorized agent for the owner.) The statement should give details as to why the horse was incorrectly registered.
• Re-registration fee, as published in a current-year APHA Official Rule Book. If the foaling year is changed to an earlier year, the difference between the registration fee paid at that time and the amount that should have been paid at that time must be remitted.
• Original registration certificate. The original must be submitted before a re-registration certificate will be issued.
On-line Stallion Breeding Reports

APHA's on-line services allow stallion owners to track and submit their stallion breeding reports (SBRs) quickly and easily. SBRs are required for registration of any progeny. A report must be filed for every stallion that has been bred to a mare. Each mare that stallion has been exposed to during the year must be listed on the SBR.

An on-line SBR can be created early in the year and then updated periodically. You can access this on-line report 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to add a mare to the report. Just like printed SBRs, on-line versions must be submitted by November 30th of each breeding year.

Start keeping track of your SBRs by logging on to apha.com, clicking on “member login,” and signing in with your membership identification member and PIN. Then, go to “My APHA.” Creating SBRs on-line allows stallion owners to authorize release of breeding certificates at the same time the mare’s report is entered. This, in turn, allows the owner of the dam at the time of foaling to register the foal on-line.

Leasing a Paint Horse

In some instances, you may choose to lease, rather than buy, a horse. As the lessee, APHA recognizes you as having the same responsibilities as the horse owner. For example, if you are officially listed as the lessee of the mare at the time a foal is born, APHA considers you the original owner of the foal. However, leased horses do not qualify for APHA Amateur or Youth points, or awards earned at APHA-approved shows.

Because leasing a horse has legal implications, you must complete and file a lease authorization form. APHA requires that you provide the following information:

- A completed lease authorization form, signed by the lessor and the lessee.
- Appropriate fee.
- Copy of the registration certificate for Quarter Horses and Thoroughbreds.
- Date the lease is effective and a definite termination date. If it is necessary to cancel the lease authorization prior to the specified date, the lease may be terminated with a lease cancellation notice signed by the lessor and the lessee.

On-line Registration

APHA now allows mare owners to register their foals on-line, thus reducing the registration turnaround time to only a few days.

The benefits of on-line registration, versus traditional mail-in applications, include:

- Faster processing time—A team dedicated to on-line applications processes transactions.
- No postage costs—Those who register using the new process normally complete the entire transaction on-line, eliminating the need for mailing.
- Error reduction—If a required field in an application is not completed, users are prompted to enter the necessary information. Similarly, if a registration name has been used previously, users are instructed to select another name. The system also flags information that appears to be inaccurate or incomplete.
- Efficiency—A properly completed application form ensures that APHA registration staff members can quickly proceed with the creation of a registration certificate. Applicants know immediately if the information they are submitting needs to be updated or corrected.
- Enhanced customer service—For members who require quick turnaround times, nothing is faster than on-line registration. Also, it frees up time for other customer service personnel to work with applicants who choose to complete their application through traditional methods and who may have special questions or needs.
- Transaction records—On-line registration users know the status of their application from the moment they submit their forms. Additionally, all of the information submitted is kept safe and secure through use of the latest encryption technology.
- Greater flexibility—You can use a digital camera to take your horse’s registration photographs and simply upload them with your application. There is no need to make prints and send them through the mail. If another image is needed, applicants are notified.

Before you can register your foal on-line you need:

- A current APHA membership and an APHA On-line PIN number.
- A release of breeding. The stallion owner must have released the breeding, meaning he or she has signed off on the printed SBR or faxed the signed SBR to the APHA On-line team with a request to release, prior to the registration process.
- A Breeder’s Certificate control number. This number is found on either your pre-printed registration certificate, in the Breeder’s Certificate section under the stallion owner’s signature, or you can look it up on-line if you have the stallion and mare registration numbers, the breeding year and the beginning breeding date.
- Four photos of your horse (one of each side, front and rear view) that can be uploaded. These photos should be no larger than 800x600 pixels and in a jpeg format. Please do not crop your photos. APHA is not able to use cropped photos.
- A Mastercard or VISA credit card for payment.

Now you are ready to register your horse on-line. Simply complete each question on-line as they appear on the screen. These questions are the same as those on the printed registration application.