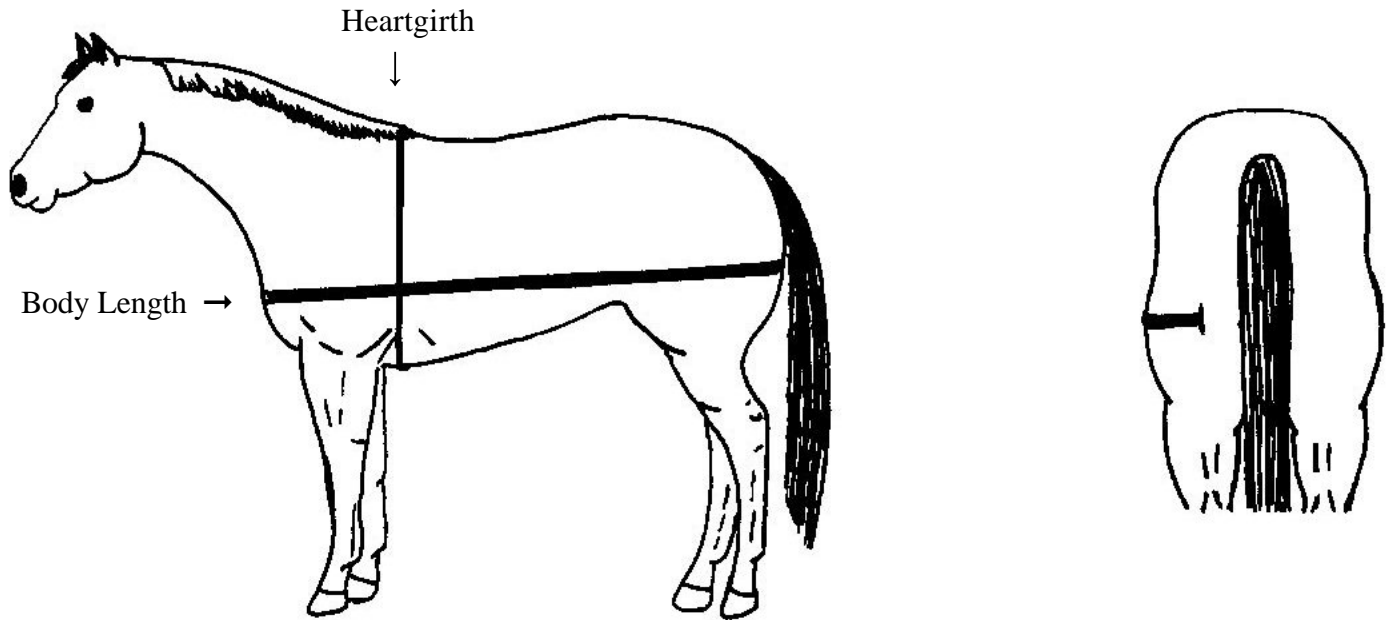


ESTIMATING HORSE BODY WEIGHT WITH A SIMPLE FORMULA

$$\frac{(\text{Heartgirth} \times \text{Heartgirth} \times \text{Body length})}{330} = \text{Weight in pounds}$$

Note: Heartgirth and Body Length in inches



Measurements should be taken and recorded in inches with a tape that is at least 75 inches long. Plastic measuring tapes are preferred over cloth tapes because they won't stretch. Metal tapes can be used but they sometimes scare horses, making them the least preferable.

As shown in the figure, heartgirth is a measure of the circumference, taken by running the tape measure all the way around the horse, using the highest part of the withers. Body length is measured from the point of the shoulder, straight back along the horse's side, and to the point of the buttock. The rearview figure shows that the tape should go around the corner of the hip and to the actual point of the buttock, which is essentially half the distance from the corner to the tail. Two persons will be needed in taking body length measurements. (This procedure may not be highly accurate for pregnant mares or for horses with extreme conformational irregularities, especially very unbalanced horses). All in all, horse owners should be able to utilize this simple tool in better managing horses.

From: Texas Horse Owner's Reference Guide
Texas A&M University, Department of Animal Science, Equine Sciences Program

Laboratories that provide forage testing:

Dairy One www.dairyone.com submission forms available on line
Equi-Analytical www.equi-analytical.com Call 877-819-4110 to order submission forms
Cornell University Endocrinology Lab (on submission form fill in test requested)
ACTH, Insulin, Cortisol, Glucose, Total T4 in tests required.
www.diaglab.vet.cornell.edu/pdf/DLsubform.pdf