



## American Haflinger Registry

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## Haflinger Pedigree Certificate Tips

Welcome to the wonderful world of Haflingers! If you are thinking about buying your first Haflinger and want to make sure that the horse's American Haflinger Registry (AHR) registration is in order, here are a few items to check before handing over your hard-earned money. We want the buying of your first (or your tenth) Haflinger to be an enjoyable experience, unmarred by paperwork snafus.

Please note that all horses registered with the American Haflinger Registry can now be researched on our website.

- Go to [www.haflingerhorse.com](http://www.haflingerhorse.com)
- Click the "Member Login" button near the top of the page
- Use the 'Search the Registry' windows to look for a farm, person, or animal
- The pedigree, current owner, and many other details about a registered American Haflinger can be researched here
- You do not need to be a member to use these basic search functions

If you are buying from a current American Haflinger Registry member you should expect all the items listed below to be in order.

### 1- Ask the owner to show you the horse's original pedigree certificate:

- a) It should be an official-looking paper with a sketch or photo of the horse in question. There have been several certificate styles and logos over the years so not all pedigree certificates look exactly the same.
- b) Does the sketch or photo of the horse on the certificate match the horse you are buying? If yes, great. If not, you may be looking at a certificate that belongs to a different horse.
- c) Next, make sure the person selling you the horse is the recorded owner. The person selling you the horse should be the last typed name on the back of the certificate. Sometimes a seller will provide a signed transfer from the previous owner, skipping themselves as owner.
- d) Be aware that AHR will not accept skipping transfers. The chain of ownership must be kept intact. This may necessitate a double transfer – one from the recorded owner to the person you are buying the horse from and one from that person to you. Since the previous transfer was not recorded at the time of sale, there will also be a late penalty on that transfer.
- e) A transfer form needs to be fully filled out by the seller, with complete buyer and seller information, then signed and dated by the seller. Incomplete transfer forms given to a buyer are against AHR rules and regulations.
- f) AHR rules state that the seller pays the transfer, however, that is often negotiated between buyer and seller at the time of sale.

### 2- If the horse you are considering buying is a bred mare, here are a few items to consider:

- a) First, was the mare at least 3 years of age before she was bred? If she was bred before January 1 of her 3 year-old year, the foal will not be able to be registered.

- b) Second, was the mare bred to a current, fully licensed AHR breeding stallion? AHR stallions must be licensed, DNA tested, and annual renewal fees paid before offspring can be registered. If so, the seller must provide a breeding certificate, signed by both the owners of the mare and stallion at the time of breeding. (See item 3b for foals born in 2020 or later.)
- c) Third, the seller must be able to provide proof of DNA testing for the mare. Transfer of ownership cannot be completed on bred mares until DNA testing is, at a minimum, submitted for processing.
- d) The owner of the mare at the time of foaling is the first owner and is required to complete the original registration of the foal. The application for registration of a foal must be completed in full and accompanied by the proper fee.

**3- If the horse you are considering is not yet AHR registered, but the seller assures you that it is “registerable”, beware:**

- a) AHR rules state that only the owner of the mare at the time of foaling can register a foal. That means that if the seller intends for you to register the horse, he must present you with the signed application for registration, and a signed transfer of ownership for that horse.
- b) Breeding certificates are no longer used starting with registration of 2020 foals. Stallion owners now must approve the registration of each foal by their stallion on DigitalHorses, the AHR registry software. For late registration of foals born before 2020 a copy of the stallion breeding certificate is still required.
- c) If the horse is a filly, or a stud colt that is the result of AI with transported or frozen semen, or if the foal was not registered by December 31st of its birth year, DNA testing with parentage proof will be required in order to complete the registration. That means that both the sire and dam must already have DNA testing on file in order to parentage proof the foal.
- d) Also, any registration not completed in the year of the horse’s birth will incur additional late penalties, so registration fees may be significant.

**4- If everything checks out okay and the seller hands you the pedigree and the transfer, make sure that the transfer application has been signed and filled out completely by the owner of record which is the newest name on the back of the pedigree certificate.**

- a) If the horse is registered in the names of joint owners, then you need two separate signatures, one from each owner. The only exception to that is if the names are separated by an “or” rather than “and”.
- b) Example, if the ownership record states “John and Mary Smith”, then your transfer should have one signature from John Smith and a second signature from Mary Smith. We can’t accept one person signing “John and Mary Smith”. If the ownership record states “John or Mary Smith”, then either signature will suffice.
- c) Applications for Transfer are expected to be submitted within 30 days of sale. Blank or open signed Applications for Transfer are prohibited except in the case of auction sales where a seller may submit a signed Application for Transfer to auction management, completed except for the buyer's name and address.

**5- If you are buying a horse and you want to put the ownership record in the name of a minor child or grandchild, then we also need some additional information:**

- a) We need to know the birth date of the child in order to determine when that child becomes legal age of 18. If the horse is sold, a minor owner cannot sign the transfer of ownership. This must be done by a parent or guardian. We would need to know who that person is at the time of the original transfer.
- b) We also request that any adult that is not the legal guardian of the minor child and that is listing the name of that child as owner of a horse, please also send documentation that proves that the parent or legal guardian of the child knows it is being done.

If you have any questions about registration or transfer, please call the knowledgeable staff at the AHR office at 330-784-000 or send an email to [secretary@haflingerhorse.com](mailto:secretary@haflingerhorse.com)