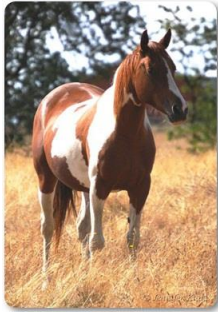




What is an Equine Appraisal?

By Tracy L. Dopko, Certified Senior Equine Appraiser



At some point in a horse owner's life, situations may occur that are unforeseen and require you to prove the value of your horse. An equine appraisal is a unique service created to establish current market values of horses for purposes such as donations, purchases, insurance policies and claims, divorce, estate settlements and litigation. Horses are considered personal property (chattel) and fall under the same guidelines as stated in the Personal Property Appraisers Guide. A professional report is created for each appraisal.

The Appraisal Process

In making an equine appraisal, a comparable market analysis is used. Comparison of the subject equine is done with other similar equines that have sold in the recent past. From these values of recent equine sales, a composite figure is calculated representing the current, or fair market value of the subject equine. This value is time sensitive due to economics and trends in the horse industry.

What affects your horse's value?

- Physical traits such as age, health and conformation
- Breed type and breed characteristics
- Bloodlines
- Disposition
- Accomplishments including training, show records and earnings
- Value and success of offspring
- Current economic and marketing trends



Factors that do not affect your horse's value?

- Emotional attachment
- Perceived value
- Direct or indirect costs of ownership maintenance, veterinary bills and financial needs



The End Result

The client is provided with a complete, professional report which contains a full written description of the equine, including photos, conformational/gait analysis and a copy of the subject's registration papers with any significant notes about lineage plus show records and other supporting market data to back up the conclusions and valuation.

