



The guide for good animal welfare practice for the keeping, care, training and use of donkeys and donkey hybrids - Factsheet

Accommodation

Good housing provides a safe, comfortable environment with protection from adverse conditions.

What you need to know

- Construction materials should be safe, non-toxic, easy to clean, with no sharp edges that could cause injury and, preferably, fireproof.
- Floors and passageways should have a non-slip surface.
- Dust levels, relative air humidity, environmental temperature and noxious gas concentrations should be kept within appropriate limits using correct ventilation and insulation.
- Donkeys living in groups must have sufficient space to be able to escape from aggressive companions and access feed and water at all times.
- Group housing systems should include options to isolate ill, injured or new donkeys.

How to do it properly

- Housing should provide for donkeys' need to shelter from rain, sun and flies.
- Space and bedding should be adequate to provide a dry area for all donkeys to lie in natural positions and all rest at the same time.
- When designing accommodation, including stables and stable doors, ensure that each donkey has visibility, audibility and, ideally, contact with other donkeys.



Appropriate bedding is essential for donkeys and donkey hybrids



Contact between donkeys should be considered when designing accommodation

A contingency plan should be in place in case of fire or other critical situations and emergencies.

Photographs used in this factsheet to illustrate some situations should not be considered to illustrate the sole solution to situations described.