

## USES

American Aztecas<sup>sm</sup> respond brilliantly to the different equine high school disciplines requiring suspended and elevated gaits and the qualities passed on from both parent breeds make them also, a skillful working cow horse or western horse. They can and do excel at many events and in all disciplines. They are unrivaled when it comes to versatility.

So whether you like English or Western, you need a graceful dancer or cowhorse, you enjoy jumping, dressage, cutting, reining or penning or just desire a wonderful companion for trail riding, take a look at the AmericanAzteca they can do it all and do it well.

We hope you will take the time to learn more about this athlete that will win your heart as well. We hope you will choose to own and love an American Azteca Horse. They have an exciting and promising future ahead, and they truly are...



“The horse of your dreams”.

## BREED DESCRIPTION

This breed inherits beauty, temperament, pride, agility, and Spirit from their Andalusian blood and strength heart and speed from their Quarter Horse Blood. The breed requires there be no more that  $\frac{3}{4}$  Andalusian or Quarter Horse blood in the first generations. The American Azteca should be a good balance between the two breeds with qualities of both. The intention is to create a new type that exhibits the best of both breeds.

The recommended characteristics of the American Azteca are as follows. Some variations are seen. Average size ranges from 14.2 to 16. hands. Both Quarter Horse and Paint horses proving no more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  TB can be used for breeding American Aztecas. All AQHA and APHA markings and colors are acceptable. The head is of medium size with a straight, slightly convex or slightly concave profile with a broad forehead, expressive eyes and medium ears which are mobile and well placed. The neck well muscled, shapely, and slightly arched with a medium crest and a broad base where it joins on to a long sloping shoulder. A long flowing mane and tail are often seen. The withers broad and slightly muscled, yet defined. The haunches, strong and well muscled leading to a well set medium to low tail. The legs are well muscled with dense bone, good joints and strong hooves. Retained from the Andalusian is a free shoulder and hip which allows them to be incredible athletic and smooth to ride. Their movement is naturally collected with a variance of knee action from high and brilliant to long and flowing. All of this creates a horse anyone would be proud to own.



## *The American Azteca Horse International Association<sup>sm</sup>*



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# HISTORY

In 1972 the Mexican Charros (cowboys) began a quest to produce a horse with the agility, quickness, and cow sense to work on their cattle ranches.

For this they chose the Andalusian to cross with their Quarter Horses and Criollo mares. The results were astounding, a horse with speed, heart, stamina, grace and an outstanding disposition and ability to learn. That horse not only possessed the ability to work on their ranches but also the versatility to have many other uses. The Azteca was born, and in the years following has acquired so much recognition it has earned the title of the "National Horse of Mexico".

The Andalusian used to breed with their mares, is an Ancient and rare breed. They are very sturdy with a long sloping shoulder, natural collection, extremely sturdy legs and hooves. Sought after for their quiet temperament they are easily handled, yet have a reserve of energy when called upon. They are the horses that through out history, were revered for their abilities when used as a warhorse. These same skills were used in Spain and Portugal to work the cattle and the notorious fighting bulls and still are today. In the bull ring they carry their riders with unimaginable grace and speed.

Today, 80 percent of all modern breeds

including the Quarter horse, trace back to the illustrious horse of Spain and Portugal.

The American Azteca combines both the new and the old world, resulting in a noble, docile, agile, proud spectacular horse. The breed is very easy to train and once taught, never forgets.



# THE ASSOCIATION

Although the Azteca, as a breed, originated in Mexico, it was felt that the culture in America demanded a little different type of horse to fit their needs.

The American Azteca Horse International Association (AAHIA) is an organization registering and promoting American Azteca horses.

Our goal is to emphasize the remarkable qualities of this breed and be a part of the history and projected growth and popularity in the future.

We are here to provide the breeders, admirers and enthusiasts with an organization that will gather, educate, promote, advertise, register and show their American Azteca.

The AAHIA takes into consideration the needs, demands, requirements, market, and abilities of breeders and owners of Aztecas in the United States and throughout the world.

We in no way want to dispute the Mexican standards as they are the original developer of this magnificent breed, and have designed it to suite the needs and market of Mexico. We feel that to be successful in America the horse needs to have more diversity than the horse that is desired in Mexico. Our American Azteca Horses will be modeled closely after their Mexican cousins in type. We still base the breed on the combination of Quarter Horse and Andalusian blood and intend to promote a high quality of horse.

Because of our efforts to make this breed a success in America, we are not calling our breed "Azteca", but rather "The American Azteca Horse<sup>SM</sup>". This signifies that we are the American version of the fabulous Azteca which was originally created in Mexico.

We do want to credit Mexico, in all way possible for the creation of the Azteca breed. We do not want our efforts here to rob them of there national horse.

In that effort we are not calling our breed Azteca, but rather the American Azteca. This signifies that we are the American version of the fabulous Azteca, which was original created in Mexico.

