

The Profitability of Miniature Horses

The profitability, both material and financial, of any horse operation should be examined in detail from all aspects prior to start up.

Factors of Consideration	Miniature Horse	Full-Sized Horse
Purchase Cost	\$1,000 to \$200,000 Determined by size, conformation, bloodline and show record. The smaller and more correctly conformed, the greater the value.	\$500 to Millions Determined by breed, conformation, genealogy, show record, etc.
Feed Cost	Approximately \$25 per month/horse (includes feed and hay)	\$50 to \$150 per month/horse (depending upon use and purpose)
Professional Stable Cost	\$50 to \$150 per month/horse Miniature horses can be kept in backyards with a mini barn or shelter, depending upon local zoning laws.	\$200 to \$550 per month/horse Depends upon facilities, pasture and riding opportunities.
Training Costs Halter-In-Hand	\$300 and up per month/horse Family involvement is encouraged--even small children can help train a miniature horse.	\$??? to \$??? per month/horse Depends upon the reputation of the trainer, stable and breed.
Pasture Size (with supplemental hay and feed)	3 Miniature Horses per acre One can easily be kept in the average residential backyard, depending upon local zoning laws.	Minimum 3-5 acres per horse
Tack-Halters Work Show	\$4 to \$8 each \$25 to \$150 or more	\$12 to \$18 each \$75 to 500 each
Harness Work Pleasure Driving	\$200 to \$400 \$750 to \$1,400	\$350 to \$4,000 \$1,500 and up
Blankets Sheets Saddles Carts	\$25 to \$65 \$20 to \$45 Not normally used on miniature horses \$375 to \$1,500	\$85 to \$200 \$40 to \$65 \$250 and up \$1,000 to \$5,000
Farrier Cost Trimming	\$10 to \$18 per horse Some owners trim and rasp their own horses hooves due to the decreased hazards associated with a smaller animal.	\$15 to \$25 per horse Some experienced and very knowledgeable owners do their own trimming.
Shoeing	Usually not done on Miniature Horses Except for corrections or driving on hard surfaces.	\$50 to \$200