

Donkey & Mule Society of NZ
Checklist...before you get a donkey



- Do your hours of work and lifestyle leave you time to check your donkeys daily?
- Can you afford to have two donkeys as they prefer their own kind as company?
- Have at least one acre per donkey, so you can spell areas as needed?
- Can you provide an electric fence unit, stakes and tape to break feed larger areas?
- Are your paddocks well fenced, with no barbed wire and drain well?
- Do your neighbours have shrubs overhanging their boundary fences the donkeys could eat, which could possibly be poisonous?
- Can you provide a dry shed for shelter and large trees for shade?
- Are you prepared to buy covers if your donkeys require them?
- Can you provide a trough of reliable fresh water?
- Can you always provide a multi-mineral salt lick?
- Can you afford to buy meadow hay and /or barley straw, as your donkey needs roughage every day and are you prepared to feed them daily?
- Can you afford to call the vet when your donkey is unwell?
- Can you afford to have the donkey's teeth filed every 2-3 years?
- Can you afford to pay for a farrier to trim their feet every 6 to 8 weeks?
- Can you afford to pay for worm drench and lice treatment?
- Do you have time to "muck out" their paddock if your area is small?
- Do you have time to brush them and lift their feet to pick out dirt and small stones? Therefore, you will need to buy a halter, a lead rope, a hoof pick and brushes.
- Do you have someone to check on them should you be away or are unwell?
- Please consider if you can care for your donkey/s for many years as a donkey's life span can be 25-35 years and beyond.

further information is available on
www.donkey-mule.org.nz and ***www.donkey-mule.trust.org.nz***