



# Ears

1. Donkeys can hear two noises at once, and can turn each ear towards the detected noise.
2. When at rest, donkeys' ears are straight, but not too forward.
3. When donkeys are interested, attentive and listening to you, their ears are pointed forward.



# Ears

4. Donkeys move their ears back when they want to protect themselves from the wind, but also when they're playing or focusing.
5. Warning! Depending on the situation, when a donkey's ears are pushed back, it can also mean that the donkey is not happy or that he or she is feeling scared.
6. Fully plated ears and head forward are a sign of aggressiveness and mean that a donkey may attack.



# Socialisation

When they meet, donkeys blow air into each other's nose to exchange information.

Other signs of donkey affection are shown by friction, nibbling or mutual licking.



# Signs of affection

Donkeys rest their heads on their grazing companions' neck to show their affection.





# When a donkey refuses to move

Faced with a potential threat, donkeys prefer to stay put while they analyse the situation. Too often, donkeys are considered "stubborn" when in fact, they are just afraid.

This fear can be explained by the fact that the field of vision of donkeys is much wider than that of humans: donkeys can see what is going on behind them, but we don't. Donkeys need to be reassured when they're scared.



# Rolling in the dust

Donkeys roll in the dust for fun when they are relaxed and feel safe. This practice is 'contagious', which means that when a donkey sees another donkey feeling happy, and safe, they also start feeling happy and safe and roll in the dust too.

Donkeys sometimes roll when they're moulting, or to help maintain their body temperature.

Warning: donkeys can also roll on the ground because of colic. They often drop suddenly, roll violently and then gets up, looking lost.