How to measure your horse or pony for bodyweight estimation

Some points to note….

1. Always be consistent with the method you use for identifying your anatomical landmarks. Palpation is best!
2. You need two people to ensure you get an accurate length measurement.
3. Consider the physiological status of your subject. Measurements for bodyweight estimation are not as accurate in pregnant mares or racing Thoroughbreds that maintain very little body fat.
4. Bodyweight will be calculated automatically when you enter your patients details in the questionnaire. However, should you wish to calculate your patient’s bodyweight for your own purposes the equation you need is:

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\text{Bodyweight} = \frac{\text{girth}^2 \times \text{length}}{11880}
\]

Figure 1: Where to place the measuring tape to obtain the girth and length measurements used for bodyweight estimation.