



DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK  
 BRANDS ENFORCEMENT DIVISION  
**APPLICATION FOR BRAND RECORDING**

OFFICE USE ONLY  
 CC/CHECK/MO \_\_\_\_\_  
 AMOUNT REC'D \_\_\_\_\_  
 TRANSMITTAL # \_\_\_\_\_

**All fields are required unless specified otherwise.**

**Type of Ownership:**  Sole Owner  Joint Tenancy  Tenants in Common  
 (Select only one) See **Requirements for Brand Recording** for information about ownership types & authorized bill of sale signers.

**Owner:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Separate owner names with a comma. Business names must be registered with Montana Secretary of State.

**Physical MT Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Primary physical address or location of livestock that will bear this brand City County

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address City State Zip Code

**Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bill of Sale Signer(s):** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Required if Owner (above) is a business.

**Additional Montana county (ies) of range:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Not required)

**Identifying Marks:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 i.e. ear notches, waddles, etc. (Not required)

**Species:**  Cattle  Horse  Sheep  Bison

**Sheep and Bison:** If applying for sheep or bison, list the preferred brand location for each species. If more than one location is acceptable, list them in preferential order.

- Preferred position(s) for sheep: \_\_\_\_\_ Paint Color: \_\_\_\_\_
- Preferred position(s) for bison: \_\_\_\_\_

**Freeze Brands:** Add a cattle freeze brand for an additional \$200 (ARM 32.18.109)  Yes  No

**Brand Choices:** See reverse

**Application Fee:**  Standard Brand Recording Fee: \$200\*  
 (Select one)  Brand Recording Fee + Cattle Freeze Brand: \$400\*  
 \*\$100 of the application fee is nonrefundable. Fees are subject to change.

**Applicant's signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Dept. of Livestock  
 Brand Recorder  
 PO Box 202001  
 Helena, MT 59620-2001

**APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE PROCESSED IN-PERSON  
 AND MAY NOT BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY.  
 PLEASE ALLOW 2-4 WEEKS FOR PROCESSING.**

**More information:** (406) 444-2045 or [www.liv.mt.gov](http://www.liv.mt.gov).



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**APPLICATION FOR BRAND RECORDING (Page 2)**

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TRANSMITTAL # \_\_\_\_\_

**Brand Choices:** Carefully draw one brand image in each box. List choices IN PREFERENTIAL ORDER. The first available brand choice listed on this application will be issued to the applicant.

Indicate the position on cattle, horses, or both for each image.

Per 81-3-103, MCA, new brands must be distinguishable with reasonable certainty from all other marks and brands.

<p>1</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>2</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>3</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>4</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>
<p>5</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>6</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>7</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>8</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>
<p>9</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>10</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>11</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>12</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>
<p>13</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>14</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>15</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>16</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>
<p>17</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>18</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>19</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>	<p>20</p>       <p>Cattle: _____ Horse: _____</p>



DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK  
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**REQUIREMENTS FOR BRAND RECORDING**

If you own livestock in Montana, you are required to pay an ANNUAL PER CAPITA FEE. Visit [www.liv.mt.gov](http://www.liv.mt.gov) for more information.

**NEW BRAND CONFLICT CHECK:**

The primary purpose of livestock brands in Montana is to help clarify ownership of branded livestock. Applications for new brands are compared to over 50,000 existing brands to ensure that they are “distinguishable with reasonable certainty” from all other brands, per 81-3-103 MCA. This is a meticulous, specialized process that utilizes data from thousands of Montana livestock inspections. Even if a brand is not recorded, it may be too similar to an existing brand to be issued.

**APPLICATION PROCESSING:**

**APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE PROCESSED IN-PERSON. THEY MAY BE MAILED IN OR DROPPED OFF FOR PROCESSING.**

**Applicants are encouraged to include multiple choices, listed in preferential order on their application. The conflict check is performed beginning with the first choice; the first brand that passes the conflict check will be issued to you.** Once issued, the brand is yours until the next rerecord (2021), at which point you may choose to either renew it, or let it expire.

If none of your choices pass the conflict check, you will receive a letter with two options: 1) submit a W-9 form to receive half (\$100) of your application fee back, or 2) submit additional choices to be checked for conflict. If MDOL receives no response for six months following the date of this letter, your application is nullified and no fees will be reimbursed.

**SELECTION OF BRANDS**

**Acceptable Brand Characters**

The following characters are the **only** characters that will be issued in new brands:

- A, B, C, D, E, F, H, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z,
- 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
- Box, Diamond, Heart, Triangle
- bar, slash, quarter circle (only in the formats shown below)

**Acceptable Brand Formats:**

- The ‘H’ and ‘B’ in example brands (right) may be replaced with any of the Acceptable Brand Characters listed above.
- Individual characters may be rotated 90\* either direction (“lazy” orientation).

H <sub>B</sub>	H <sup>B</sup>	Ⓜ	Ⓜ	△H	♥H	◇H	⸍B
⸍B	⸍B	⸍B	⸍B	⸍B	'HB	HB,	HB
⸍B	⸍B	⸍B	⸍B	⸍B	⸍B	'HB	HB,
HB	H-B	HB-	-HB	HBH	H/B	H/B	H\B

**BRAND OWNERSHIP TYPES**

**Sole Owner:** one individual person\* or business\*\* is listed as the only owner of the brand.

**Joint Tenancy:** multiple individuals\* listed as owners; in the event of the death of one owner, the decedent’s interest passes to the surviving owner(s); ANY owner may sign a bill of sale to sell branded livestock.

**Tenants in Common:** multiple individuals\* listed as owners; in the event of the death of one owner, the decedent’s interest passes to the heir(s) of the decedent; ALL owners must sign a bill of sale to sell branded livestock.

*\*Individuals must use their full, legal name as it appears on a driver’s license or birth certificate.*

*\*\* When recording a brand to a corporation, partnership, or LLC, the entity MUST be registered with Montana Secretary of State ([sos.mt.gov](http://sos.mt.gov)). Bill of sale signers must be listed on the application to designate who can sell branded livestock.*