



DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK
BRANDS ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
APPLICATION FOR BRAND RECORDING

(page 1)

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. Do not use "and", "or", "and/or". 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 #: _____ **Phone #:** _____
Home Phone number Cell phone number

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: _____

Brand Choices: See page 2

Freeze Brands: Add cattle freeze brand? **Additional \$10.00 fee required.** YES NO

Application Fee: **Standard Brand Recording Fee: \$200.00***
 Brand Recording Fee with Cattle Freeze Brand: \$210.00*
*\$100 of the application fee is nonrefundable. Fees are subject to change.

Applicant's signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Do you own livestock in Montana? YES NO **If so, you are required to pay a PER CAPITA FEE.**
Visit www.liv.mt.gov for more information

Make Check Payable to: MT Dept of Livestock
Mail Application & Payment to: MT Dept. of Livestock
ATTN: Brand Recorder
PO Box 202001
Helena, MT 59620-2001
For More information: (406) 444-2045 or www.liv.mt.gov.

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



DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK
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APPLICATION FOR BRAND RECORDING

(page 2)

All fields are required unless specified otherwise.

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.

1) Cattle: _____ Horse: _____	2) Cattle: _____ Horse: _____	3) Cattle: _____ Horse: _____	4) Cattle: _____ Horse: _____
5) Cattle: _____ Horse: _____	6) Cattle: _____ Horse: _____	7) Cattle: _____ Horse: _____	8) Cattle: _____ Horse: _____
9) Cattle: _____ Horse: _____	10) Cattle: _____ Horse: _____	11) Cattle: _____ Horse: _____	12) Cattle: _____ Horse: _____

If you prefer to have MT Dept of Livestock select and assign a brand to you, using the criteria listed below, please select the box below and follow the instructions.
 Finish the process by printing, signing, dating, and returning the form with your payment.

If none of the above brand choices are available, I will accept **ANY BRAND** with the following two (2) characters on the position listed. You may choose two (2) characters from the acceptable brand character list in the Requirements for Brand Recording (see page 3)

Character

Character

Circle any position you will accept:

Position on cattle: LS RS LR RR LH RH
 Position on horses: LS RS LT RT LJ RJ

NOTE: There will be a Bar, Slash or Quarter Circle added to your chosen characters to complete your Brand.

Applicant's printed name: _____

Applicant's signature: _____ **Date:** _____



DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK
BRANDS ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
REQUIREMENTS FOR BRAND RECORDING

Page 3

Do you own livestock in Montana? If so, you are required to pay a PER CAPITA FEE.
Visit 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 (2031), at which point you may choose to either renew it, or let it expire.

If you select the option to allow MT Dept of Livestock to select your brand, you will receive an official brand certificate. Once issued, the brand is yours until the next rerecord (2031), 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 three 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, or 3) appeal to the Brands Enforcement Administrator. 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 _B	H ^B	⊕	⊞	△H	♡H	◇H	⌒ _B
⌒ _H	⌒ ^H	⌒ _B	⌒ ^B	⌒ _H	⌒ ^H	⌒ _B ,	⌒ ^H _B
⌒ _H	⌒ ^H	⌒ _B	⌒ ^B	⌒ _H	⌒ ^H	⌒ _B ,	⌒ ^H _B ,
H _B	H-B	HB-	-HB	HBH	$\frac{H}{B}$	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). Bill of sale signers must be listed on the application to designate who can sell branded livestock.