



# SURE FOOT Equine Stability IMPRESSION PAD Fact Sheet

## The Impression Pad – See What's Going On

The Impression pad is the firmest pad of the SURE FOOT Equine Stability Pad Collection. Color-coded on one side with Orange DuraFlex, the pad has only one density surface. The uncoated side is neutral in color so that you to see and feel the impression created after your horse stands on it for a few minutes.

This pad will harden when cold but this will not damage the function once it warms up again. It is possible that the warmth of the horse's hooves may soften it enough to take an impression in below-freezing temperatures but this has yet to be tested. At this point we suggest you keep it in a heated area before use.

The Impression pad can be used with every horse. It's real potential is with horses that are known to pull back, are anxious or suspicious of a softer, springy surface or don't like having their feet touched. The Impression pad gives slowly, gradually yielding to the horse's weight. Watch the horse's expression while on the Impression pad. You may observe facial features softening as the pad starts to give. This may take a minute or two. It's fine to let them stand on it for a while. It may be that the pressure in the hoof becomes more evenly distributed, which could offer a sense of relief. After standing on the pad for a few minutes, remove it from under your horse's hoof and feel the indentations indicating where the weight has been greatest.



How the horse weights the hoof structures; frog, heel, bars, wall, is a perspective we cannot typically perceive. This is because, when the horse is on good footing, the top surface yields to the hoof therefore you don't see how it lands. If the surface is hard, such as the barn aisle, the hoof capsule adjusts to the rigid surface, which may put stress on the internal structures of the foot.

The impression pad gives under pressure so that the hoof finds it's own level, which can then be observed once he steps off. This makes this pad an excellent tool for farriers and veterinarians when observing how the horse habitually stands and in determining corrective trimming and/or shoeing, treatment or post injury rehabilitation. Follow-ups on the Impression pad can show how the pattern changes as a result of awareness on the horse's part and other corrective treatments.

- Shape, rectangular shape allows the different density pads to be paired with each other for ease of use.
- Each pad is 12"x10"x2" thick (25cm x 30cm x 5cm) so that there is sufficient area for the horse's hoof and thickness to absorb the horse's weight.
- Each pair of pads comes with an SURE FOOT Equine Stability Program Instructional DVD.
- Lightweight and extremely portable. The pads can easily be carried, for use in any location. This means the owner can bring their pads with her to the arena, a competition, or the field in order to help a horse overcome anxiety in a specific location.
- Coated with DuraFlex, a highly durable and anti-microbial coating that significantly increases the life of the pads.
- Retain properties at any temperature, including below freezing, although it is recommended that one use the uncoated surface in temperatures below 45 degrees F (7 degrees C). The Impression pad will harden in colder temperatures but it is still functional.
- Easily cleaned with a brush, soap and warm water.
- They are made of as much environmentally friendly material as possible, designed and tested by Wendy Murdoch, carry the official SURE FOOT Logo and are assembled in the State of Maine, USA.
- Can be used with horses of any size, weight or breed. Variation in the pads density provides different degrees of firmness each providing a different experience for the horse.
- Durability. The Official SURE FOOT pads have been designed and tested to hold up under the demands of use with horses in any environment. While they are not impervious to damage (tears and cuts) they will continue to service the horse even is somewhat damaged by the horse's hooves. Therefore the benefits of the SURE FOOT program can be offered to the average horse owner for (in many cases) the cost of one shoeing. Offering the horse and horse owner a long-term use to aid in improvement of overall health.
- Warranted against delamination of the DuraFlex coating and/or pad layers.
- Stackable. SURE FOOT pads can be combined to stack layers generally two high but in instance three pads high. Stacking allows the person to give the horse an experience that matches the habit patterns in the body. Horses will not stand on stacked pads unless they wish to, you cannot force this on the horse as they will slip the pads to be lower if so desired. However, stacking allows the horse to experience limb differential and in many cases is beneficial to establishing a more normal, balanced posture and movement.
- Pads can be use to benefit the horse pre-exercise, post-exercise, during a training session to improve and enhance performance, recovery from injury while stall bound or in limited movement, reset proprioceptors to reestablish normal patterns of movement, calming for any breed horse in any discipline, improve overall well being of horse and owner, improve relationship between horse and owner as the owner is recognized by the horse as the one who brought the comfort.