

SURE FOOT

EQUINE STABILITY PADS

FACT SHEET - **HARD PADS**

Gives Directly to Heat and Pressure

Genuine SURE FOOT Equine HARD Pads are the same material throughout. Color-coded on one side with Orange DuraFlex and stamped with the official SURE FOOT logo. The pads come packaged in pairs, along with a Warranty Card registration form and QR code for immediate access to the SURE FOOT® Equine website. On the site you can register your purchase and access free learning tools.



Formerly called the "Impression" pad, this material has no lateral give. Therefore it is the most stable of all the SURE FOOT Equine Pads. Each horse uniquely weights its' hoof structures - frog, heel, bars, wall - a perspective we cannot typically see. When a horse is on good footing, the top surface yields to the hoof, meaning we cannot usually see how it lands. If the surface is hard, such as the barn aisle, the hoof capsule also adjusts to the rigid surface, which may put stress on internal structures. The HARD Pad provides an opportunity to see how the horse is weighting the hoof, providing key indicators for positive change.

The HARD Pad gives under pressure so that the hoof finds its own level, which can be observed once the horse steps off. The HARD Pad also makes an excellent tool for farriers and veterinarians in observing how the horse habitually stands, in determining corrective trimming and/or shoeing, and for improving treatment or post injury rehabilitation. By journaling results, follow-ups on the HARD Pad can show how patterns change – as a result of both: improvements in each horse's own awareness via use over time; and corrective treatments.

Standing on this pad for several minutes temporarily captures an imprint of the hoof. This image can be photographed to serve as a record of the hoof shape, structure and weight distribution over time. The HARD Pad will return to its original appearance after several minutes and will not retain an imprint between uses. The pad will harden slightly when cold, but this will not damage the function or change the result. As temperature changes the speed of a hoof impression, a clear hoof impression may take slightly longer to appear in temperatures below freezing. The HARD Pad can be kept in a warm room or vehicle prior to use to counteract this. Similarly, in warm weather the impression will disappear faster than at other temperatures.

The HARD Pad especially benefits horses beginning the SURE FOOT® Equine Stability Program - particularly if the horse is unstable, weak, arthritic, anxious, nervous, on stall rest, receiving rehabilitation or returning to work after a long break. Because the material has no lateral give and will slowly yield to the horse's weight, providing maximum stability - you can allow a horse to stand on the HARD Pad for quite a while - provided there is minimal swaying.

Pads are suitable for any surface your horses frequent, including for those that are shod, bare foot and/or wearing boots. Pads will show natural wear over time. Nicks, tears and cuts are considered normal wear and tear and do not limit the effects of the pads.

- **Benefit:** Long-term use to aid in improvement of overall horse health and well-being.
- **Color Coded:** Coated with Orange DuraFlex, a highly durable, anti-microbial coating.
- **Shape:** Rectangular shape allows the different density pads to be paired or stacked for ease of use.
- **Size:** 10"x12"x2" (25cmx30cmx5cm) so that there is sufficient area for the horse's hoof and sufficient thickness to withstand the compression under the horse's weight.
- **Pad Weight:** Each pad weighs 16 oz. (454 grams).
- **Weight load limit:** Can be used with horses of any size, weight or breed.
- **Safety:** Pads are constructed of material that will not cause injury to the horse. However, failure to follow instructions may cause harm to both horse and human. Always follow the

safety guidelines on the back of the insert sheet, website and/or DVD instructional videos.

- **Instructions for use:** Available on www.surefootequine.com and on YouTube: SURE FOOT Equine Channel. DVD available upon request – make a note with your purchase.
- **Breed or discipline:** May be used with any breed that has a hoof; horse, donkey or mule.
- **Serviceability:** While the pads are not impervious to damage (tears and cuts) they will continue to service the horse even when they look ugly due to use.
- **Portable:** The lightweight pads are easily used in any location. Take them to the arena, competition, field, veterinary clinic or anywhere your horse needs comfort and stability.
- **General cleaning instructions:** Easily cleaned with a soft brush, soap and warm water. Avoid scouring powder or other abrasive cleaners as they may damage the coated side.
- **Health Safety:** Disinfect with soap and water
- **Hoof Preparation:** Bare foot horses tend to cut the pads so be sure to file off any sharp hoof edges to minimize damage. Shod horses tend to tear the edges of the pad if they slip off. See instructions for use avoiding slipping and swaying.
- **Uses:** Pads are beneficial to 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 establish normal patterns of movement, calming for any breed horse in any discipline, improve overall well-being of horse and owner, and generally to improve the relationship between horse and owner as the owner is recognized and trusted by the horse in providing care over time.
- **Base Layer:** The HARD Pad may serve as base pad for stacking other density pads on top.
- **Stackable:** SURE FOOT pads can be combined to stack layers generally two high, but in some instances three high. Stacking allows the person to give the horse an experience that matches different habit patterns of the body. Stacking allows the horse to experience limb differentials - beneficial to establishing a more normal, balance posture and movement. Do not force a horse to stand on stacked pads. Stacked pads may themselves slip more easily due to a horse stepping or slipping, and this may cause additional wear and tear. Therefore, if you are stacking, ensure to follow instructions safely and expect to see greater damage over time with use.
- **Durability:** Genuine SURE FOOT pads are durable and have been designed and tested to hold up for continued use under the demands of horses in any environment. Pads from the original production run in January 2016 are still in use today.
- **Storage** – Be mindful of where you leave your pads. In very hot temperatures HARD Pads will soften considerably. Do not leave any SURE FOOT pads in an enclosed car, horstrailer or other confined spaces in hot and/or humid temperatures. Doing so may void the warranty. A rule of thumb is not to leave your pads exposed to direct sunlight for prolonged a period of time. If you wouldn't leave your dog in that location, then don't leave your pads there either!
- **Warranty:** Warranted against delamination of the DuraFlex coating and/or pad layers. Excessive use with multiple horses on a daily basis will cause significantly more damage than the individual horse owner. However, the pads will continue to perform.
- **Manufacturing:** Made of as much environmentally friendly material as possible, designed and tested by Wendy Murdoch, carry the real SURE FOOT Logo and are assembled in the USA under the guidance and direction of The Murdoch Method, LLC.
- **Prop 65 Statement:** For information regarding the State of California Proposition 65 please see the description of the Pads at murdochmethod.com.
- **Warning:** *Please be sure to familiarize yourself with the SURE FOOT® Equine Stability Program before using SURE FOOT pads with your horse. Failure to follow instructions could result in death or serious injury. Check with your veterinarian before using SURE FOOT for any health-related conditions. Keep your hands away from the horse's hoof. Use your foot to position the pads. See instructions for use on the SURE FOOT DVD, SURE FOOT Equine website surefootequine.com and Sure Foot Equine [YouTube](#) Channel.*