



High Desert Horsemen
 P.O. Box 2263
 Dayton, NV 89403
www.hdhorsemen.org

HD Hoof Prints

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Feb 5: Horse First Aid, presented by Dr. Brady Little of Great Basin Equine. Potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m., presentation at 6:30 p.m. Location: training room at Station 2 located at 2400 College Parkway, Carson City. Contact: Linda, 629-0817.

Feb 14: Valentines' Day Ride, 10:30 a.m. Soda Lake, Fallon. This is cart friendly. Bring a brown bag lunch. Contact: Linda, 629-0817. Directions will be posted on our website.

Feb 21: Mini Work Session / Trailer Safety Check / Trailer Loading Practice. 10:00 a.m., Hamilton's Arena, 11225 Silver Lane, Stagecoach. Members only. \$5 fee. Work session will be 10:00 to Noon. Brief lunch break—bring brown bag lunch. 12:30 p.m. Trailer Safety Check session and Trailer Loading. Bring as many different trailers as possible to use for the practice session. Contact: Linda, 629-0817.

Mar 12: HDH Board and General Membership Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Round Table Pizza, Dayton. Contact: Anne, 775-246-4247.

Mar 14: Basic Ground Manners Clinic, 10:00 a.m., Hamilton's Arena, 11225 Silver Lane, Stagecoach. Open to the public. Limit—20 participants. \$15/members and \$20/nonmembers. This clinic is designed for people who have not participated in a Ground Manners Clinic previously. Also, there will be a brief session on showing your horse at halter. Contact: Anne, 246-4247

Please check the website regularly for time and date changes. Sometimes things change and we have to re-schedule or cancel. www.hdhorsemen.org or call the contact number listed for the event

Classifieds

Classified Ads are free for all High Desert Horsemen members. To submit an ad, email: llmulkey@yahoo.com

WANTED: Western Saddle — 16" or larger seat. Prefer leather/rawhide tree. Please call Anne: 246-4247. E-mail: mustangmommy@sbcglobal.net.

January Belated Birthday

Jan 19—Mike Dziabo

Jan 23—Trish Clark

February Happy Birthday

Feb 18—Russell Smith

Feb 18—Dennis Cuccato

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Procedures for clinic fees

To give the most people an opportunity to attend the clinics that are restricted to a certain number we have initiated a new procedure for 2009:

- When signing up for a clinic, you need to contact Anne Martins either by:
1. e-mail, 2. Phone, or 3. Mail
- If you call in your entry or e-mail her, you must send a check to PO Box 2263, Dayton, NV as soon as possible to hold your spot.
- Anne will not hold a spot open for you if she does not receive your entry fee in advance.
- The entry fee is not refundable if you do not show up for the clinic.
- If you have a valid reason for not attending the clinic (medical reason for you or your equine) you will get a refund.
- If you cancel out of the clinic one week in advance, you will receive a refund.
- If you do not attend because of other reasons and you did not let Anne know you can not attend, you will not receive a refund.

This new procedure is necessary because we have had people not show up for clinics and we were not able to fill those spots and there were people on a waiting list.

HDH CLOTHING

HDH now has clothing for sale. Currently, we have in stock the following items: baseball caps, women's tank tops, polo shirts, t-shirts, and jackets.

Caps: navy, hunter green, royal blue—\$12.

Tanks: black, fushia, light blue—\$15.

Polos: navy blue and royal blue—\$22.

T-shirts: royal blue, navy blue, hunter green—\$15.

Jackets: Navy or black = \$50.

They will be Available for purchase at meetings or HDH events.

You may also e-mail Linda at llmulkey@yahoo.com if you would like to order an item.



Your first showing wardrobe should revolve around the most versatile color.

No woman's closet is complete without the essential black cocktail dress. It's easy to accessorize, matches everything and is appropriate for any occasion.

Think of that cocktail dress when shopping for your first horse show ensemble, say Kay Mortensen and Penny Young, owners of **Showtime Show Clothing** in Purcell, Oklahoma. The core of the outfit should match anything you throw on top of it. Kay suggests basic black for a beginner's staple items - it's flattering on any person or horse.

"A basic black front zip jacket dotted with crystals will take you from the showmanship class to the riding classes," she says. "The jacket should be hip length to pair with black showmanship pants, and to wear out over your chaps for riding classes. The crystals on the jacket will add sparkle and shine, which will keep you from being too "dark" in the arena. An "invisibella" stretchy undergarment will smooth out the bra lines and make you look sleek and smooth."

Add black boots and a black professionally shaped hat, and you'll be ready to hit the arena.

Sound boring? It's actually very smart. "People get in trouble when they want to buy a funny color for their first outfit," Penny warned. "Then they can't find anything else to match the chaps. That's poor planning." Not to mention a waste of money.

Splash of Color

Once you've established a core black outfit, the fun comes in spicing it up - with flashy, colorful jackets.

"A pop of color in a jacket is nice second addition," Kay says. "White ottoman fabric that is decorated with accents of black leather, gold and silver with crystals is a top-notch item to own. The base of white shows up in crowded arenas and, with the black accents, pairs nicely with black chaps and hat. Red is also a wonderful show ring color. It shows confidence and that you are entered to win first place."

Top off your outfit with simple crystal stud earrings. For an added accent, attach silver conchos to the corners of your black saddle pad, outlining each concho with a circle of ultrasuede that matches your vest.

As your horse show experience grows, so can your wardrobe. Maintaining your core items, save up for a new jacket that's different from your first, giving you a completely new outfit choice. Gradually throw in new options such as a beige hat and different colored saddle pads. Little changes that further accent the jackets will liven up the outfit and give any rider a welcomed change.

Don't forget - take great care of your show clothes, hanging and protecting them between shows and dry cleaning when necessary. If chosen wisely, your black outfit with accenting vests can last through years and years of changing horse show styles.



A black hat and chaps give you lots of options.

Show Clothes Don'ts:

Follow this advice for a stylish look.

- Don't wear ill-fitting, baggy clothes. You want to look sharp and flawless in tailor-fit clothes.
- Don't let your hat lose its shape. Keep up on reshaping.
- Don't wear colored hatbands. Stick with the band that comes with the hat.
- Don't wear colored boots with your black chaps. Only black boots will do.
- Don't wear crepe soles or lace-up boots. Roper-style, low-heeled, well-shined boots are your best bet. Crepe soles can be OK for men, but they down-dress women's outfits and make their feet look big.
- Don't wear dangly jewelry. Small crystal studs do the trick.
- Don't wear a hair net. Keep your hair neatly tucked into your hat, in a ponytail or in a neat bun, with no bangs or flyaways.

Some items from Equine Journals New 101 Tips Book:

Use a broom to put pressure on your horses rear while you open your trailer; When bedding your trailer in hot weather wet down shavings with ice water-- it will cool your horses legs; If your horse does not like water from other places on the road try putting flavorings in his water he likes at home then put the same flavorings in the water on the trip- most horses like Gatoraide ; frozen Peas make great ice packs!

Winter

Winterizing Your Horse . The best way to keep them warm.

"During the mild early months of winter allow your horse to develop his thick coat and acclimatize to the dropping temps. Avoid blanketing during this time; you really are not helping your horse by preventing him from experiencing the changing weather conditions. As the season progresses, again watch how you use blankets. If your horse has been properly acclimated, they will be unnecessary; your horse should stay comfortable as the temperature falls provided he has an area in which to escape the wind and wet." Courtesy of Equine Management, Auction, and Appraisal Services, Inc

Tired of hauling a sledge hammer out to the field to bust ice? Instead, try putting Fortex rubber buckets in your water trough or tub. Leave the plug out of the trough. Fortex buckets make life easy getting the ice out. You just fill them and dump them daily. You can throw them on the ground, step on them, kick them for stress relief and they don't ever break. The water stays clean and the water does not get as cold as in the troughs. Your horses will drink more.

Lameness

*If you think your horse is lame and are trying to determine which leg has the problem; have someone lead the horse directly toward you on hard ground. Your horses head will drop down on the sound leg and raise up on the lame leg. If you are checking for hind leg lameness, have the horse led away from you. The horses quarter will sink down on the sound leg.

Emergency Supplies

*I have a great way to ice a horses leg without holding the hose for a half an hour or using ice cubes....buy some disposable diapers wet a few with water and put them in your freezer. When you have an accident or whatever, take out the diaper and wrap it around the leg and use the sticky straps to hold it on. You can reinforce this with vet wrap or tape if needed. These beats buying those expensive boots to ice hocks! What's really great about this is the gel inside diapers doesnt freeze solid so its totally flexible.

Feet

*If you want to avoid a lot of common hoof problems, use an old timers trick. (has been used on the tracks with trotters for years) Mix Linseed Oil and Turpentine to a honey like consistency and paint on the hoof both walls and soles-stay away from the coronary band, paint this mixture on 2-3 times a week and you will have rock hard hooves.

*For a great hoof moisturizer, you can use Neatsfoot oil and pine tar. It works great. Using it keeps the frog in good condition and keeps the hoof moist. Mix the two in a coffee can and mix it together real good and then use a small paint brush to paint it onto the hoof and sole.

Horse Clothes

*If you have problems with polo wraps, flannel bandages etc. getting twirled around the agitator in your washing machine and just generally being a mess when you wash them, get a zippered lingerie bag (mesh bag for washing silky underthings!) and wash them in that. If they have velcro, stick it back on itself before you load up the bag.

*Help for those of you that put those lycra hoods on your horses. To keep them from sliding up into their eyes and then them rubbing to get it out of their eyes, take a piece of twine or elastic and tie it in a knot between the eyes, connecting the eye-holes. This will keep the hood out of their eyes and prevent rubs.

***Would You Like a Fancy Halter Like No One Else Has?**

The way to have a cool halter without spending a lot of money and make even the most inexpensive halter look great is to go to a sewing supply or craft store. Buy some unique patterned ribbon, cut it to fit the nose band and check pieces, fold over the ends and hot glue them flat --wont fray-- and hot glue them onto the halter. A great look.

Bathing/Conditioning/Coat Products

Before the show--2 months before--- groom your horse every day as if you were going to a show that day. You can wash at least two weeks ahead of time and still get the best shine as long as you groom well.

Use vinegar for fungus and dandruff. "We use 1/2 water and 1/2 vinegar, it cleared the fungus up on the horses. We now use it as an everyday spray. The horses coats are shiny and look great. We spray the saddle pads and horse boots. We spray it in their manes and tails-- the dandruff has cleared up. Cheap and works great."

*To get the yellow out of a palominos mane and tail, use Sun-In, the product used to lighten peoples hair. Wash and condition the mane and tail, and then comb in Sun-In . Let your horse dry in the sun for a couple of hours (make sure he has a fly sheet on to repel the sun from his coat). This is a very safe and inexpensive way to bleach out yellow.

*Aloe Vera gel can be used instead of hair gel when braiding manes or tails. There is no need to wash it out afterwards. It also works well when grooming halter horses to control the short, "fly away hairs" ,(Manes,tails, forelocks) giving your horse a more polished look. When the hair is still damp - "a little dab will do ya." It works well on humans - there are plenty of toxins you cant avoid "out there" - why add to it? So far Ive found the lowest prices on the gel at Wal-Mart. It is good to put on fly bite areas on your horses as well.

*Love those Laser and Show Sheen products for making the mane and tail really look great and remove those tangles? Try using Infusium 23! This is a leave-in conditioner for all us two-legged creatures. You can find it in any store, Walmart, grocery stores, etc... Its in the hair products aisle and costs far less than the conditioners made just for horses. It works better too!!

*A great practice when giving a "serious" bath : add 3 cups of distilled or vinegar, (bathe with white vinegar only---cider vinegar will stain a light colored horse ie: palomino--app---paint) to a 5 gal. bucket of water for rinse. Lots of benefits, A) repels flies, B) shampoo & dirt/oils rinse quicker, C) coat dries faster, D) aids in removal of old dead skin & hair, E) coat is soft and shines bright with out silicon or oils. For conditioning use "cheap mayo" rub in coat after rinse, leave a few min. & rinse. If hair is real dry you wont have to rinse it will soak it all up without leaving a residue.

*A towel soaked in baby oil and water and dried out with give your horse a little extra shine when grooming. Baby oil will also make a horses mane and tail shiny, and darken his face and ears for show days.

Wound Care

*Caution when using petroleum jelly on wounds. According to my vet, petroleum jelly does not allow oxygen to the wounded skin and smothers it. The wound takes longer to heal. Also, NEVER put a petroleum (or to be sure any) salve on a wound you think may have to be stitched. The vet will not be able to get it all off and will not be able to stitch the wound. We have had VERY good results hosing the wound for 15-20 minutes twice a day (at first) until it is pink and almost bleeding. Use some water pressure enough to be a little uncomfortable but not painful. The time is as important as the water pressure. Then we put "Nolvasan" salve on the wound. Gaping 4 inch gashes have healed in 2 weeks with no sign of a scar. Weve also had excellent results on the boney parts of legs.

*Be careful using hydrogen peroxide on wounds. It actually removes oxygen from the area, which can retard healing in some cases. It may encourage the growth of bacteria that thrive without oxygen (anaerobic). The Veterinary Manual for the Performance Horse by Equine Research Inc., says "hydrogen peroxide is toxic to equine cells, especially to migrating fiboblasts that produce collagen to repair a wound. Peroxide also causes blood clots in microvessels, interfering with oxygen supply to the tissues. Reduced oxygen results in more devitalized tissue, and delayed healing. It should be reserved only for cleaning off blood that has splattered the hair below a wound"

Colic

*Just recently we had a horse that I had to put down due to numerous colic problems in a short period of time. An autopsy was done on her and found that she had large ulcers in her stomach which was caused her to colic every other day in a weeks time. I had taken her to a Large Animal Hospital on her last colic and they advised that her colic was due to the ulcers and if she had made it through we would have put her on on a soft diet. The suggested diet was Equine Senior with warm water and nothing else. Unfortunately she did not make it through the last colic so I did not get a chance to try this. The vet advised they have had good results from this diet when used. They mentioned that you might have to keep them on this diet for several months. In addition to that if it is ulcers causing the colic they would have put her on Tagement (a human ulcer medication). Feed some senior feed, it has bacilli to help digest food as the horse could need the bacilli -- if its own is dying off. Use physillium as per its directions (some human natural laxitives are physillum and may be more economic). This will help clear sand, pebbles. Use some of that flavored electrolites in her barrel of water. Some don't drink enough when the water and weather get too cold. The flavored stuff will usually get them to drink more.

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Harold Roy Miller

I first saw her at the rancher's annual ball.
Someone said she came down from Montreal.
She was with a wrangler named Shorty McNatt,
a hired hand who worked out on Coyote Flat.

She was a dainty morsel, dignified and slim,
but what was she doing with the likes of him?
This guy was obnoxious, full of insufferable pride,
and this situation was starting to chap my hide.

Shorty was well known for his cussing and drinking
and being mentally challenged when it came to thinking.

I had heard he'd often frequented the local jail
and suffered the occasional blackout spell.

Now I was already smitten with this special lady of class
and I didn't want her saddled with someone so crass.

I was also fairly certain that she would never find
happiness with this human horse's behind.

So I formulated myself an ingenious plan
to steal her away from this inferior man.

It gave me a feeling of complete satisfaction
as I begin to put my slick plan into action.

As soon as I saw ol' Short Stuff standing by himself

I went over and started patronizing the little elf.

I politely handed him the drink I had just made
and told him it was my gourmet lemonade.

It was actually a mixture of strong whisky and scotch
and I found me a vantage place where I could watch.

It did not take long, the liquor worked quickly
and Shorty staggered outside, looking rather sickly.

I then hurried over and asked the lady to dance
knowing I now had wrangled my chance.

I turned on the gentlemanly cowboy charm
as I offered and she graciously accepted my arm.

We danced one dance and I tried to break the ice
and show this doll I was really quite nice.

We finished the waltz and I asked her for another
but she said she needed to go find her brother.

She said she was supposed to make sure he stayed sober.

He was in AA and on the wagon since October.

But the way he was staggering, she feared some ornery skunk
had slipped him some alcohol and gotten him drunk.

I stood there forlorn for a moment on that dance floor
then like a coyote I skulked out the side door.

My bubble of happiness had been popped like a blister.

How was I to know my dream girl was Shorty's sister?

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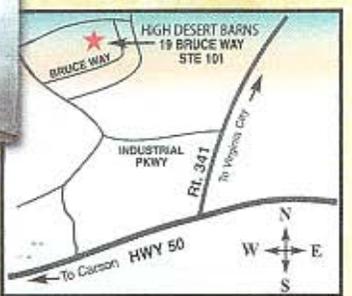
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What exactly is a barefoot trim?

By Tom Moates, with contributions from Kristin Syverson

Barefoot Trim

In theory, a "barefoot trim" gives a domestic horse's hoof the same shape as a wild horse's hoof. Supporters of the barefoot trim believe that if it happens in nature, it must be the best thing for the horse. So, it would be reasonable to associate a "barefoot trim" with "natural."

This "natural" design is based largely on a study of mustang hoof wear in some specific western North American environments. Sometimes, you will also hear a barefoot trim referred to as a "mustang trim" for this reason.

Traditionally, farriers have been responsible for trimming both shod horses' hooves and barefoot horses' hooves. Fans of the barefoot trim, however, suggest that a farrier trims every hoof as if it will eventually have a shoe on it and that a barefoot horse requires something else entirely. The "barefoot trim" is actually quite different than the trim a shod horse receives.

Traditional Trim

- Heels longer than barefoot trim
- Bottom of hoof edge rasped sharp
- The toe is left longer and sharper than barefoot trim

Barefoot Trim

- More petite look from taking off more heel
- All flare removed from the sides
- Breakover in the toe of the front feet

The breakover is where the front third of the hoof of the front feet is angled or beveled, eliminating the sharp long toe. This arrangement is said to provide a more natural pivot point in the step, so the flex and mechanics to the foot and leg structures are more natural and better for the horse.

It also is generally explained in barefoot-trimming literature that this trim should ensure a heel-first landing, placing the bulk of the weight landing onto the heel, which may not always be the case in a more traditional trim where toe-first landings are most likely. Horses with barefoot trims are thought to have a reduced risk of injury, an overall proper balance of motion and better performance.



Proper hoof care is important whether your horse is barefoot or shod.

The Vet's View

"There's nothing wrong with a horse going barefoot," says Dr. Tracy A. Turner, of Anoka Equine Veterinary Services in Elk River, Minnesota. Dr. Turner, whose specialty is equine lameness, worked as a farrier before entering veterinary medicine and published the now-classic article, "The Art and Frustration of Hoof Balance," in the *American Farrier's Journal*. "If your horses don't need shoes, don't put shoes on them. I'd choose to have a horse go barefoot over being shod in general."

On the topic of barefoot trims, however, Dr. Turner has some words of caution.

"Some are really radical," he says. "My rules of thumb are: Anything that draws blood can't be good. Anything that leaves your horse lame afterward can't be good."

His professional advice comes from personal experience. He has witnessed instances where radical and bloody trims were performed on horses' feet by self-professed barefoot trimmers in the name of healing troubled hooves, which had sad and ultimately fatal consequences. He stresses, however, that a good trim is a good trim, regardless of who does it – farrier, trimmer or horse owner.

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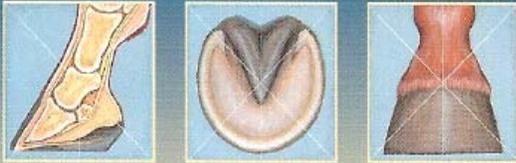
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