

It's Easier to go 'Barefoot' than you think!

1. Get the diet right. Excess carbohydrate (too much grass, not enough fibre, molassed grains) and mineral imbalances directly affect the overall health of the horse, especially the laminae of the hooves.
2. Maximise movement with regular exercise, keeping the horse in a herd environment, and being creative with paddocking arrangements.
3. Have your horse regularly trimmed by someone who understands the difference between a 'tidy up' and a proper barefoot trim.
4. Use hoof boots until your horses soles thicken up enough that they are no longer required. This is not even necessary for some horses.
5. Be patient and prepared to make allowances for the first season.

Benefits of Going Barefoot

1. A healthier horse that will stay sound and ride-able for longer.
2. The satisfaction of seeing beautiful, strong and healthy hooves with lovely, plump frogs.
3. Freedom from worrying about shoes, (losing one, having them come loose).
4. Less expensive.
5. Way less risk of injury to you and other horses.
6. Hard ground is not nearly as harmful when barefoot as the hoof is designed to absorb concussion, whereas shoes accentuate concussion.



Healthy strong, barefoot hooves. Altho these hooves are due for their monthly trim, take note of the wide, plump frog, plump bulbs of the heels, strong, straight hoof wall. This horse has a very high fibre diet and lots of exercise. Riding on stones is no problem.