

What to Look For in a BAD Trim



This is the pits!! This unfortunate horse has been trimmed by someone who cannot 'see' the harm they are causing despite being meticulous about the angle of the coronet band! The coffin bone has detached (separated) from the hoof wall except for the top inch, above the 'rings' because the toes have been left alone. The long toes and under-run heels mean that the whole hoof is too far out in front of the bone column to support it as nature intended. Walking for this horse could be likened to you trying to walk with flippers on, the long toes interfere with the break-over and strain the backs of your legs.

Compare the following picture of a healthy hoof where the coffin bone is tightly attached to the hoof wall from top to bottom. There is no 'bend' in the hoof wall at all.



The next picture shows the effect on the white line when the toes are allowed to get this long.



The white line stretches because the laminae is tearing with the pressure of each step.

When Jools started trimming the foot the separation is clearly visible all around the toe:



It will take 12 months of proper trimming along with a high fibre/low sugar diet for this horse to grow a whole new hoof capsule. Keeping the toes backed up will help take the pressure off while the new wall grows down with a tight attachment to the coffin bone.