



Strong
bonds are
built with
great care.™

Hoof Care

#1 Tip

Use Your Smartphone to Document Hoof Condition

Over time, it can be hard to remember exactly how your horse's feet looked. A photo record provides an easy way to gauge progress when your farrier is working to correct a problem. Photos also come in handy when evaluating how well a hoof care product is working. You can scroll back to "before" photos to see how your horse's feet have changed (and hopefully, improved) over the weeks and months. Put your smartphone to use and take close up photos of your horse's hooves before and after trimming or shoeing. The horse should be standing still on a flat, even surface. If you want to photograph the sole, have your farrier (or a horse friend) hold the hoof still so you can snap the photo.

#2 Tip

Make Your Horse More "Farrier Friendly"

If your horse doesn't stand well for the farrier, incorporate a few extra steps into your daily grooming routine to make him more "farrier friendly." Always make sure he is standing square so he feels balanced before picking up a foot. When cleaning out his hooves, hold his feet at the same level and in the same way as the farrier does. Use a stiff brush to brush the sole and lightly tap on the hoof so he gets used to different sensations. Gradually increase the length of time you hold the hoof off the ground, so the horse gets accustomed to standing on three legs for several minutes. Reward him with praise and a pat rather than treats so he doesn't start looking for a food reward every time you pick up a foot.