

# THE ALUMINUM NATURAL BALANCE® SHOE

## Suggested Hoof Preparation & Shoe Placement Guidelines for the Aluminum NBS

The following suggestions and guidelines, working together with the Natural Balance shoe, have been found to “Service the Needs of the Equine Foot” very well. The application procedure and shoe design\* have been beneficially used to maintain soundness and allow horses to move freely and more comfortably throughout the shoeing regime.

\*These horseshoes have been patented by Gene Ovnicsek in U.S. Patent No. 5,727,633 and by David M. Duckett in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,165,481 and 5,368,104.

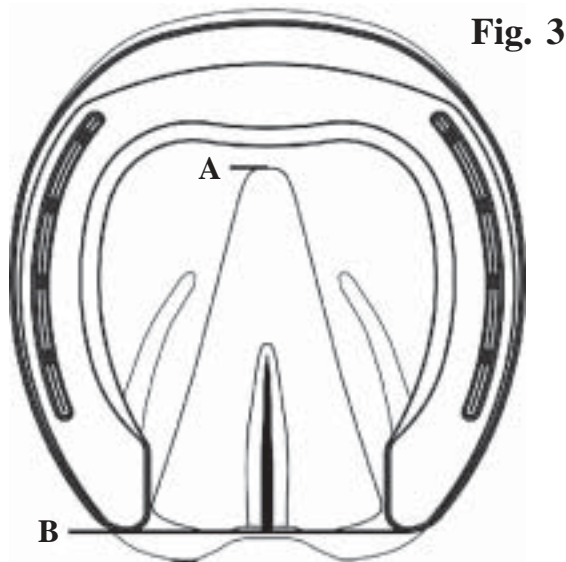


Fig. 3

The distance from the frog apex to the inside border of the shoe (Fig. 3-A) should be:

Shoe Size '00'	0" - 1/4"	Shoe Size '2'	1/4" - 1/2"
Shoe Size '0'	1/8" - 1/4"	Shoe Size '3'	3/8" - 1/2"
Shoe Size '1'	1/4" - 3/8"	Shoe Size '4'	3/8" - 5/8"

All shoes should extend to the end of the frog, which usually means that some shoes will extend beyond the buttress of the heel. (Fig. 3-B)

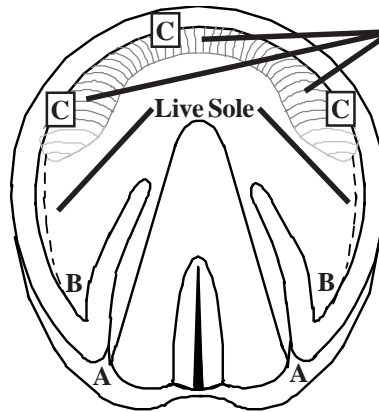


Fig. 1

**Sole Callus** - Preserve the sole callus! It is an adaptive sole structure that is necessary to support and protect the border of PIII, and the circumflex artery and vein.

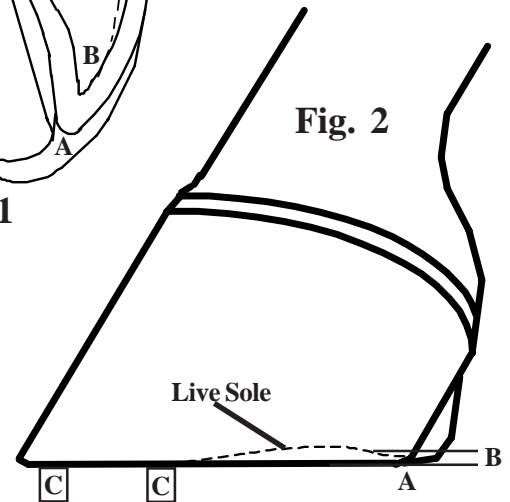


Fig. 2

We suggest that the foot be prepared so that the trimmed heel terminates close to the back of the frog. (Fig. 1-A & 2-A) This generally requires removing the heel so that the hoof wall is about 1/16" to 1/8" from the **live, exfoliated sole** at the heel. (Fig. 1-B & 2-B) The wall at the toe is trimmed equal in height to the sole callus. (Fig. 1-C & 2-C)

1 2

3 4

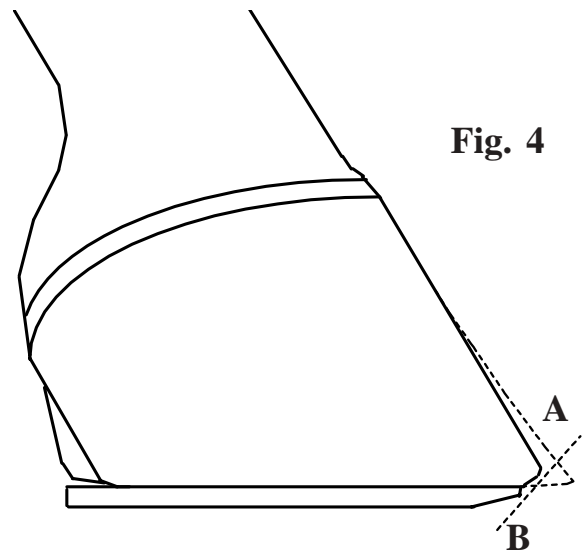


Fig. 4

When finishing the foot, only remove the flares that are obvious from the mid portion of the hoof wall down. (Fig. 4-A) Undercut the remaining hoof left over the shoe. (Fig. 4-B) This will give you the appearance of the Naturally worn bare foot.

More information can be found at:  
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