

DIY Donkey Trimming Checklist



HOLISTIC HOOVES

BY the donkey farrier

www.donkeyhooves.com

Step 1: Trim the Frog

- Identify the Line of Exfoliation and use it as your guide for trimming the frog.
- Notice any diseased, torn, tattered, or otherwise unhealthy frog tissue.
- Trim to the line of exfoliation and also remove any unhealthy frog tissue to prevent thrush and promote healthier growth.

Step 2: Exfoliate Sole to Functional Healthy Sole Plane/Waxy Sole

- Start from the termination of the bars and work around to the apex of the frog.
- Extend the exfoliation towards the sole-wall junction, with special attention to this area.
- The functional sole plane should have a waxy appearance. Stop when you see waxy sole or slightly before.
- Use the waxy sole as a guide to help determine the depth of the functional sole plane.

Step 3: Collateral Groove Measurements

- At the apex of the frog, aim for a depth between $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch.
- At the back part of the grooves, the desired depth ranges from $\frac{3}{4}$ inch to 1 inch.

Step 4: Find Breakover

- Measure the frog from back to apex and divide it in half.
- Place this measurement forward of the frog apex towards the toe to locate the point of P3 (Pedal Bone). Breakover (POB) will be about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch forward of P3.

Step 5: Trim the Hoof Wall & Heel Heights

- Use frog exfoliation, waxy sole, collateral groove measurements, and breakover point as guides.
- Align the hoof wall with the functional sole plane.
- Gradually trim back heels, staying slightly above the frog exfoliation line.
- Check for balance, then use a rasp for a smooth finish.
- Apply a light bevel from the toe to quarters for improved breakover.

Step 6: Fade the Bars

- Trim the bars along with the hoof wall.
- Use a hoof knife or bonsai nippers to fade them from the collateral grooves to the seat of corn.
- Ensure that the bars are passive to the hoof wall and seamlessly join at the heel base.
- Verify that there are no points of imbalance and excessive loading.

Step 7: Dress & Bevel the Hoof Wall

- Finish beveling started during the hoof wall trim.
- Feather out delamination or irregularities.
- Address flares.
- Remove any hyperactive periople.

Want to learn more about the **DIY Donkey Hoof Trimming 2.0 Online Course** created for Donkey Owners, that includes **1:1 personalized trimming coaching to fast track your donkey hoof trimming success?**

It is super easy, just fill out this short application and I will be in touch with you shortly
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