

## FACT SHEET - FIRM PADS

## Firm Pad - The "Workhorse" of SURE FOOT

Genuine SURE FOOT Equine FIRM Pads have a Green DuraFlex coating on one side stamped with the official SURE FOOT logo, and an are charcoal on the other side. They are packaged in pairs along with a Warranty Card registration form and QR code for immediate access to the SURE FOOT® Equine website for on-line product registration and education. This is the pad to choose for calm horses if you can only start with one density. It is the most versatile of the SURE FOOT Equine pad range. FIRM offers more lateral give than HARD but is not as challenging as MEDIUM and SOFT. Nor is it angled like HARD SLANT or FIRM SLANT.



FIRM may be used with any size or weight horse who is typically calm and easily accepts new ideas. For horses over 17 hands and 1800 pounds the HARD Pad is recommended as the FIRM may compress too much to give sufficient feedback to the horse.

The FIRM Pad has two working surfaces; diffuse (green) and direct (charcoal) giving your horse two choices. Pads may be used same side up, or one up and one down. You can feel this difference yourself by standing bare footed with one foot on each surface.

Generally, FIRM is considered the starter pad - unless you have an anxious, weak or nervous horse, one rehabilitating from injury or accident, or returning to work after a long break. In these cases, you would start with the HARD pad to avoid overtaxing your horse in the beginning.

Pads are suitable for use on any surface with horses that are shod, bare foot and/or wearing boots. Pads will show wear over time. Nicks, tears and cuts are considered normal wear and tear and do not limit the effects of the pads in any way.

- Benefit: Long-term use to aid in improvement of overall horse health and well-being.
- · Color Coded: Coated with Green DuraFlex, a highly durable, anti-microbial coating.
- Shape: Rectangular shape allows the different density pads to be paired or stacked for ease of use.
- **Size**: 10"x12"x2" (25cmx30cmx5cm) so that there is sufficient area for the horse's hoof and thickness to withstand the compression under the horse's weight.
- Pad Weight: Each pad weighs 6.5 oz (184 grams).
- · Weight load limit: Can be used with horses of any size, weight or breed.
- **Safety**: Pads are constructed of material that will not cause injury to the horse. However, failure to follow instructions may cause harm to both horse and human. Always follow the safety guidelines on the back of the insert sheet, website and/or DVD and instructional videos.
- Instructions for use: Available on www.surefootequine.com and on YouTube: SURE FOOT Equine Channel. DVD available upon request.
- Breed or discipline: May be used with any breed that has a hoof; horse, donkey or mule.
- **Serviceability**: While the pads are not impervious to damage (tears and cuts) they will continue to service the horse even when they look ugly due to use.
- **Portable**: Bring your pads to the arena, competition, field, veterinary clinic or anywhere you horse needs comfort and stability. The pads are easily used in any location.

- **General cleaning Instructions**: Easily cleaned with a soft brush, soap and warm water. Avoid scouring powder or other abrasive cleaners as they may damage the coated side.
- · Health Safety: Disinfect with soap and water.
- **Hoof Preparation**: Bare foot horses tend to cut the pads so be sure to file off any sharp hoof edges to minimize damage. Shod horses tend to tear pads by slipping off the pad.
- **Uses**: Pads are beneficial to the horse pre-exercise, post-exercise, during a training session to improve and enhance performance, recovery from injury while stall bound or in limited movement, reset proprioceptors to establish normal patterns of movement, calming for any breed horse in any discipline, improve overall physical well-being and confidence of horse, improve relationship between horse and owner as the owner is recognized by the horse as caregiver.
- Stackable. SURE FOOT pads can be combined to stack layers generally two high, but in some instances three high. Stacking allows the person to give the horse an experience that matches the habit patterns of the body and offer alternatives. Stacking allows the horse to experience limb differential and in many cases is beneficial to establishing a more normal, balance posture and movement. Do not force a horse to stand on stacked pads. Stacked pads may slip as the horse steps off or slides the pads and this may cause additional wear and tear, therefore if you are stacking expect to see more damage.
- **Durability**: Genuine SURE FOOT pads are durable and have been designed and tested to hold up under the demands of use with horses in any environment. Pads from the original production run in January 2016 are still in use today.
- **Storage** Be mindful of where you leave your pads. In very hot temperatures Hard pads will soften considerably. Do not leave any SURE FOOT pads in an enclosed car, horse trailer or other confined spaces in hot and/or humid temperatures. Doing so may void the warranty. A rule of thumb is not to leave your pads exposed to direct sunlight for prolonged a period of time. If you wouldn't leave your dog in that location, then don't leave your pads there either!
- **Warranty**: Warranted against delamination of the DuraFlex coating and/or pad layers. Excessive use with multiple horses on a daily basis will cause significantly more damage than the individual horse owner. However, the pads will continue to perform.
- **Manufacturing**: Made of as much environmentally friendly material as possible, designed and tested by Wendy Murdoch, carry the real SURE FOOT Logo and are assembled in the USA under the guidance and direction of The Murdoch Method, LLC.
- **Prop 65 Statement:** For information regarding the State of California Proposition 65 please see the description of the Pads at <u>murdochmethod.com</u>.
- **Warning**: Please be sure to familiarize yourself with the SURE FOOT® Equine Stability Program before using SURE FOOT pads with your horse. Failure to follow instructions could result in death or serious injury. Check with your veterinarian before using SURE FOOT for any health-related conditions. Keep your hands away from the horse's hoof. Use your foot to position the pads. See instructions for use on the SURE FOOT DVD, SURE FOOT Equine website surefootequine.com and Sure Foot Equine YouTube Channel.



