

## Equitech Hoof Hardening Gel

*Equitech Hoof Hardening Gel* is a multi-component solution to harden, increase resilience and help protect the hooves of horses from damage caused by exposure to excessive moisture, harsh environmental conditions and general wear and tear

Its thick “non drip” consistency assists application and helps minimise the risk of splashing and spills

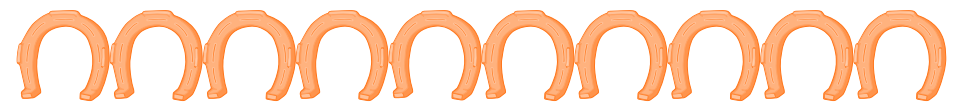
*Equitech hoof Hardening Gel* contains two compounds which build bridges within the swollen and separated keratin tubules of the horn. The different lengths of these compounds helps optimise the fit between different sized spaces within the Keratin increasing hardness and resilience without making the hooves brittle.

*Equitech hoof Hardening Gel* has a natural disinfectant property which helps reduce the level of undesirable organisms which can damage the hoof

*Equitech hoof Hardening Gel* contains a zinc based buffer to help minimise the effects of ammonia from urine and dung.

*Equitech hoof Hardening Gel* has been primarily developed for horses but can be used with any hoofed animals where they are exposed to harsh conditions.

*Equitech hoof Hardening Gel* is supplied in a **330ml** bottle with a brush built into the cap and a **100ml** “pocket pack” with a built in sponge applicator and flow control valve



## Soft and Damaged Horn

Good nutrition is essential for a horse and its hooves but correcting identified nutritional imbalances is at best long term and is rarely an answer to the effects of excessive exposure to water, urine, dung and accidental trauma. Typical problems from wet horn are flared and separated walls, flatter and thicker soles and small cracks, especially if filled with dung, allowing keratolytic fungi and bacteria to proliferate

Traditional remedies such as oils and greases often only mask the problems, trap excess moisture, ammonia etc. and do nothing to re-enforce the basic Keratin structure of the horn

*Equitech Hoof Hardening Gel* contains two chemicals of different lengths which act to build “bridges” both within and between the individual keratin molecules. This short and long distance re-enforcing of the basic structure of the horn provides the hardening mechanism which increases the resilience of the hoof to mechanical stress and abrasion. It also helps prevent existing cracks and damage from “creeping” by bonding the surrounding matrix together.

It leaves a dry micro porous structure which is still able to “breathe” releasing absorbed ammonia and excess moisture. Also, once dry it doesn’t collect dust and loose straw etc in the way oils greases can.





## Equitech

### Instructions for Use

**Equitech Hoof Hardening Gel IS ONLY FOR EXTERNAL USE ON THE HOOVES OF HORSES AND OTHER ANIMALS**

#### Precautions:

- **Keep out of the reach of Children**
- **Keep closed when not in use**
- **Irritating to the respiratory system. Use in a well Ventilated & Dry area**
- **Harmful to the eyes. Immediately rinse any splashes with cold water and seek medical advice.**
- **Wear rubber gloves and always wash your hands and any skin splashes promptly after use.**
- **Equitech Hoof Gel is initially mildly astringent which may cause a horse to “start” if it penetrates any un-noticed cuts etc.**
- **Store in a cool dry place out of sunlight**

#### Inspection:

Carefully examine the hooves for signs of disease or bleeding. If present these should be referred to a veterinary surgeon before commencing the use of *Equitech Hoof Hardening Gel*

#### Preparation:

*Equitech Gel* needs to penetrate the horn in order to work. All traces of mud and in particularly hoof oils and greases need to be thoroughly removed. Scrubbing the hooves with a mild detergent is normally adequate if oils and greases haven't been used. Rinse thoroughly and allow to dry before application of the hoof dressing. Hoof oils, Greases are well removed by acetone. Surgical spirit is less effective but will

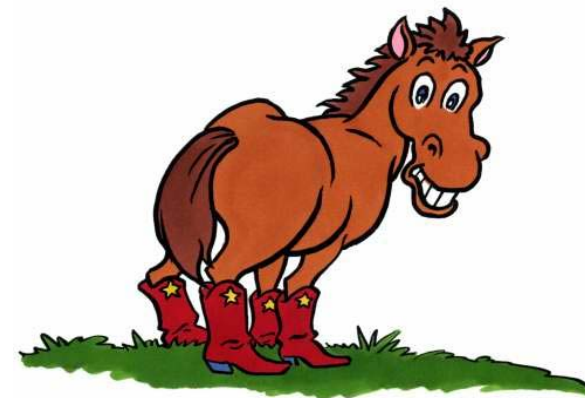


help if acetone isn't available. Cellulose paint thinners are also effective when varnishes have been used as well. Do NOT use nail varnish remover as some preparations contain oil which may impede the action of *Equitech Gel*.

*Equitech Gel* can be applied to shod or unshod horses but works a little faster on unshod since greater penetration from the bearing surfaces can be assured. Application by the farrier during shoeing can be advantageous. In either case ensure that the hoof is correctly trimmed. Rasping to give a clean surface, especially if shoes have been burnt on, improves penetration of the treatment. Be sure to move the horse to a level, dry, well ventilated and lit area before

#### Application:

When applying *Hoof Hardening Gel* be careful not to cover the coronary band. Nor should it be applied to the frog at full strength but a 75% dilution in water can be used to help reduce fungal and bacterial growth as well as and firming the tissue in this area.





Start with the hoof inverted. With its thick “non drip” consistency only one or at most two coats of Hoof Gel need be applied with the brush to ensure thorough wetting of the sole, ensuring good penetration into any cracks or cavities in the bearing surface. Hold the hoof upside down for a couple of minutes to allow the solution to fully penetrate. Let the hoof down and then coat the lower two thirds of the hoof wall with one or two coats over two or three minutes giving each coat a chance to soak in.

On shod hooves be particularly careful to ensure that the dressing is brushed well into nail holes and is allowed to run under the shoe by holding the hoof at a suitable angle

Allow to dry for half an hour or so before the horse is turned out or worked. If the hooves were in a particularly poor condition the horse should not be worked until applications have been made for at least two weeks as follows:

Application may be repeated two or three times in the first week, twice a week for the next two weeks and no more than once a week there after. Whilst the reaction is rapid, and will not wash out once completed, it will be a few days before the hooves become noticeably harder and up to 4 weeks before maximum hardness is attained.

### **Shoeing:**

Hardening the hoof in the weeks before shoeing may have the benefit of reducing the risk of nail loosening and subsequent shoe loss. During shoeing apply the dressing and leaving for at least half an hour consolidates the horn and helps reduce the risk of splitting during nailing.



For useful independent information try:

**www.thehorse.com** has useful information on the hoof. Use the index to read a range of topics covered during the previous 5 years.

**www.wiwfarm.com/hoofstructure.htm** is a US web site with some useful ideas & links

**www.horseadvice.com/advisor/**

For photos of hoof problems:

**www.horseshoes.com/anatomy/freeman/freeman.htm** for a range of information and useful links

**www.hoofcare.com/archives/**

**understanding\_the\_equine\_foot.html** for a review on Fran Jurga’s fine book on the hoof



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