The guide for good animal welfare practice for the keeping, care, training and use of horses - factsheet



Hooves should be cleaned and checked for signs of disease or injuries, such as thrush, cracks or foreign bodies (stones for example) at appropriate intervals.

- The hooves of a horse should **be trimmed** at regular intervals.
- The frequency of trimming depends on a number of factors such as age, use and whether the horse is shod.
- As a guideline, horses that are shod should be trimmed and have shoes renewed every 6 8 weeks.
- Horses used for sport or leisure without shoes should have their hooves inspected after use for over-wear.
- It is recommended that only trained professionals should trim and shoe horses.

If there are signs of hoof problems, such as lameness, hooves should be checked immediately.





**Before** 

After

Photos are used in this factsheet to illustrate some conditions. They should not be considered to illustrate the only solution to the conditions described

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