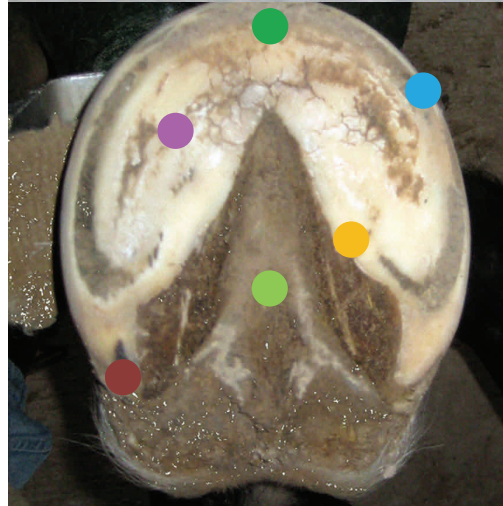




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Characteristics of Optimal Hoof Form

- The **hoof wall** is smooth, with straight tubules and no distortions such as thickening or bending
- The **arch** of the hoof wall in the heel quarters follows the contour of the hard (“waxy”) sole
- The **“mustang roll”** extends around the entire outer edge of the bearing surface, from heel to heel
- The **toe length** is short, exposing a consistent tissue depth at the white line entirely around the hoof, from heel to heel
- The **heels** are uniformly short, with the heel buttresses ending at the widest part of the frog
- The **sole** is smooth and concave, with the hard (“waxy”) sole contour exposed
- The **bars** blend into the smooth contour of the sole
- The **frog** is long, broad, and flat, and makes contact with the ground only when the hoof comes under maximal load



Domestic

Feral

Resulting Internal Anatomical Characteristics -

- Proper joint & bone alignment
- Proper coffin bone/ground relationship
- Balanced tendon tensions
- Optimal hoof expansion/contraction

Resulting Movement Characteristics -

- Flat landing
- Maximally-efficient movement
- Minimum impact forces

NOTE: This document is only intended to help educate horse owners about what does and does not constitute a proper natural trim, and **does not** constitute instructions for trimming. All horses are unique. Seek trim guidance from a **qualified** natural hoof care provider.