AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN FARRIER'S ASSOCIATION

American Farrier's Association™

Certification Guide

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AMERICAN FARRIER'S ASSOCIATION®

AFA Certification Guide

An Official Publication of the American Farrier's Association™

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An Introduction to the American Farrier's Association Certification Program

Since 1971, the mission of the American Farrier's Association (AFA) has focused on upgrading equine welfare through excellence in the practice of equine hoof care and farriery. Educating farriers in the art and science of farriery has been central to this goal. By expanding knowledge and honing physical skills through the AFA's education and certification programs, AFA farriers provide better, more professional services to horses and the people who use and enjoy them.

The AFA's Certification Program began in 1981. It stresses standardized examination processes designed to assess trimming and shoeing skills. In addition to testing these "hands-on" aspects of competency, the program includes written examinations designed to test comprehension of equine anatomy, physiology, and biomechanics.

Participation in the program is voluntary and is one of the many benefits available to American Farrier's Association members. The testing process is challenging, but the rewards are great. Farriers who participate in the program increase their knowledge and hone their physical skills through accepting the challenge of the certification process. Ultimately, the program provides an avenue for farriers to distinguish themselves to their colleagues, their peers, and the horse-owning public.

The AFA is at the center of the horseshoeing industry, providing a means for farriers to stay abreast of new techniques, new products, new technology, and the latest research and information relating to hoof care. To assist farriers as they prepare for the certification process, the AFA offers Pre-Certification Workshops.

Information about Pre-Certification Workshops and Certification events is available from any of the local, state, or regional chapters of the AFA and from the headquarters of the American Farrier's Association. Contact the AFA (1-877-268-4505 or 859-233-7411) or visit the AFA website (www.AmericanFarriers.org) to obtain schedules and contact information.

This booklet is intended to help candidates focus on areas that are tested during the certification process. Although it is comprehensive in relation to the rules and standards, it is neither question nor answer specific. The tests themselves reflect a sampling of a broad base of information. Candidates must be knowledgeable of the entire subject matter and should not anticipate specific questions or specific answers.

If you still have questions after reviewing this material, do not hesitate to contact the AFA.

AMERICAN FARRIER'S ASSOCIATION

Table of Contents

CHAPTER 1

Levels of Certification

The AFA's Farrier Certification Program consists of three categories: Classification, Certification, and Endorsement. Within these categories, the Certification and Endorsement designations have associated options and levels of progression.

Certification is at the center of this program, but Classification and Endorsement are integral and valuable components, designed to make the program viable for the entire farrier community. The Classification component provides opportunities for entry-level farriers, while the Endorsement component provides opportunities for farriers who have completed the highest level of Certification.

Candidates at each level are expected to display hoof trimming skills and techniques to meet everyday demands of correct hoof care, the skills to apply horseshoes and other appliances to exacting prescriptions, forging skills needed to modify or make a variety of horseshoes, and a knowledge of equine anatomy and physiology. Testing and evaluation are critically applied to maintain the highest standards of workmanship and professionalism.

AFA FARRIER CLASSIFICATION (AFA FARRIER)

The entry-level component of the Farrier Certification Program, this classification focuses on basic concerns associated with safe, sound farriery, relieving the candidate from certain time constraints and higher level forge work associated with certification. The AFA Farrier Classification requires that candidates successfully complete written and practical testing, including the creation of a brief horseshoe display. This classification is not a pre-requisite for any subsequent certification level.

CERTIFIED FARRIER (AFA CF)

The Certified Farrier exams, which constitute the first level of AFA Certification, are open to farriers who have at least one year of horseshoeing experience, and have demonstrated knowledge and skill to perform hoof

care on a professional basis. The Certified Farrier process requires successful completion of written and practical testing, as well as the creation and explanation of a horseshoe display.

CERTIFIED TRADESMAN FARRIER (AFA CTF)

The Certified Tradesman Farrier exams, which constitute a second (optional) level of AFA Certification, are open to farriers who have at least two years of horseshoeing experience and have completed the CF level. The Certified Tradesman Farrier process requires successful completion of written and practical testing, including the forging and fitting of a handmade shoe within a prescribed time limit.

CERTIFIED JOURNEYMAN FARRIER (AFA CJF)

The Certified Journeyman Farrier exams, which constitute the highest level of AFA certification, are open to candidates who have at least two years of horseshoeing experience and have completed the CF level. Farriers sitting for this level of certification are expected to display in-depth knowledge and highly developed performance skills evidencing a level of professional artistry. The process requires successful completion of written and practical testing, as well as the forging of a specific bar shoe within a prescribed time limit. The shoe must fit a pre-determined foot pattern.

SPECIALTY ENDORSEMENTS

Certified Journeyman Farriers have the opportunity to continue their pursuit of education and professional development through the Specialty Endorsement component. Some areas of hoof care require highly specialized knowledge and skill. These may involve working with particular breeds, activities, or disciplines, or working with equine veterinarians to provide relief from suffering by horses that have been neglected, received inadequate hoofcare, or have been affected by disease or trauma.

A Specialty Endorsement at the Certified Journeyman Farrier level is available for the Therapeutic Endorsement. A general overview of this program is provided on pages 25-28 of this booklet. More specific details and requirements are available through the AFA office.

CHAPTER 2

AFA Farrier Classification

AFA FARRIER CLASSIFICATION (FC) REQUIREMENTS

PURPOSE & PREREQUISITES

This component, which focuses on basic concerns associated with safe, sound farriery, provides testing experience and recognition for entry-level participants in the profession and for those candidates who are unable to complete the Certified Farrier exams within the required time limits. This is a CLASSIFICATION only, NOT a certification; it is not a pre-requisite for any subsequent certification level, and no minimum time of prior practice or experience in hoof care is established for this classification.

EXAMINATION COMPONENTS

(Note: On any of three parts of this examination, passing scores (numerical score and/or time limits) which meet the established standards for the Certified Farrier examination will be recorded as applying to the Certified Farrier examination. Any score applied toward the Certified Farrier designation will fall under existing guidelines for completion of that level of certification within a two-year time limit.)

1. Written Test

Format: Multiple choice and True/False questions

Passing: A score of 70% or higher on the Certified Farrier written test

Written Examination Study Outline

Subjects covered in the written examination include all items listed under the AFA Certified Farrier written test (set forth on pages 9-10).

2. Practical Examination (2 Parts)

Part 2a- Shoeing

Format: Hands-on, performance examination. Candidates shoe two feet, either a front pair or a hind pair, with shoes of the candidate's choice appropriate for the horse. Candidates are responsible for providing a horse handler.

Time Limit*: One hour and 30 minutes. Old shoes may be removed before time starts.

Scoring: Trimming and shoeing is examined and scored in three parts:

1. Hoof preparation: Scored during the examination's time limit
2. Shoe preparation and fit: Scored during the examination's time limit.
3. Nailing, clinching, and finishing: Scored after the time limit.

All scoring is done on-site by the Approved Examiner (and/or by AFA Approved Tester(s)), and recorded on official score sheets.

Passing: 60% or higher

**Overtime Certified Farrier candidates may apply their score to this level, opting for the additional time. Correct work is more important than efficiency or speed.*

Part 2b-Horseshoe Display

Format: Hands-on, performance examination, including an oral component. Candidates bring a prepared display to the examination site.

Time Limit: 30 minutes

Scoring: Displays are examined and scored by the standards set forth on pages 11-18, exclusive of the on-site, timed modification and the oral explanation/defense.

Passing: AFA Farrier Classification shoe displays must meet the basic criteria set forth on page 11, and candidates must have a passing score on six of the 11 modifications.

Note: The six passing modifications will be applied toward the Certified Farrier Horseshoe Display when/if the candidate chooses to sit for the CF exams, given that s/he chooses to do so within the two-year time frame. Should the candidate choose to apply these shoes, s/he should present these modifications along with the five additional modifications required for the CF examination.

CHAPTER 3

Certified Farrier

AFA CERTIFIED FARRIER (CF) REQUIREMENTS

PREREQUISITES

The Certified Farrier is a farrier who has demonstrated knowledge and skill to perform hoof care on a professional basis. Candidates must have at least one year of experience as a farrier.

EXAMINATION COMPONENTS

1. Written Examination

Format: Multiple choice and True/False questions

Passing: 80% or higher *(A score of 70% or higher on the Certified Farrier written test may be applied toward AFA Farrier Classification)*

Written Examination Study Outline

Subjects covered in the written examination include all items listed below. Some questions pertaining to the AFA Certification testing rules and procedures may be included.

Bones and Joints: Identify and locate the bones and joints of the lower limb from the carpus or tarsus to the distal end of the limb. Demonstrate an understanding of growth plates and joints.

Hoof Structure: Demonstrate knowledge of the construction, function, and location of the elastic and inelastic hoof structures and how they contribute to a sound, healthy foot. Include hoof wall growth rate comparisons.

Tendons and Ligaments: Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the suspensory apparatus. Correctly identify (by common and/or scientific names) definitions, functions and origin and insertion of all tendons and the major ligaments of the lower limb. Recognize the effect of changing medial/lateral and anterior/posterior hoof balance on individual tendons and suspensory ligaments.

Blood Circulation: Demonstrate basic knowledge of the circulation system of the hoof and lower leg. Know the attributes and functions of arteries, capillaries, and veins. Identify structures that aid circulation of blood within the hoof.

Pathology: Recognize definitions, anatomy involved, and possible causes of the conditions such as the following: bowed tendons, splints, thrush, laminitis, founder, ringbone, carpitis, corns, osslets, sheared heel, stringhalt, and navicular lameness. Recognize factors in identifying the affected limb(s) and locating lameness.

Horseshoes: Have an understanding of nail placement in relationship to hoof structure. Demonstrate an understanding of the design and function of modifications required in the Horseshoe Display practical examination and how they may affect the horse. Understand horseshoe features such as wide web, full swedge, half round, heel caulks, and toe grabs. Understand form and function of heartbar shoes.

Conformation, Gaits, and Physiology: Know all gaits of the horse including their definitions and differences. Know differences within a gait when applicable. Know all gait problems and faults (e.g., forging, brushing, speedy cutting, scalping, cross firing, elbow hitting, overreaching, etc.). Know how conformation affects the physiology of the horse and how the horse moves (winging, paddling, etc.).

2. Practical Examination (2 Parts)

Part 2a - Shoeing

Format: Hands-on, performance examination. Candidates shoe two feet, either a front pair or a hind pair, with shoes of the candidate's choice appropriate for the horse. Candidates are responsible for providing a horse handler.

Time Limit: One Hour (old shoes may be removed before time starts).

Scoring: Trimming and shoeing is examined and scored in three parts:

1. Hoof preparation: Scored during the examination's time limit
2. Shoe preparation and fit: Scored during the examination's time limit.
3. Nailing, clinching and finishing: Scored after the time limit.

All scoring is done on-site by the Approved Examiner (and/or by AFA Approved Tester(s), and recorded on official score sheets.

Passing: 70% or higher *(A score of 60% or higher on the Certified Farrier written test may be applied toward AFA Farrier Classification)*

Part 2b-Horseshoe Display

Format: Hands-on, performance examination, including an oral component. Candidates bring a prepared display to the examination site. Upon acceptance of the display, candidates proceed to a timed component, producing one modification on site. Candidates will be asked for an oral explanation/defense concerning any aspect of the modifications and their applications.

Time Limit: 30 minutes

Scoring: Displays are examined and scored by the following standards.

HORSESHOE DISPLAY GUIDELINES

- Displays should evidence the candidate's ability to make or modify shoes according to the list of eleven modifications.
- All modifications are to be made or applied by the candidate.
- All displays must incorporate both front and hind pattern and all front or hind shoes must be made for the same front or hind foot.
- While no specific patterns are designated or specified, candidates should work from pattern plates/hooves. Candidates may use patterns of their own design or purchase a set of pattern plates from the AFA.
- An appropriate nail (or nails) must be included with the display.
- The quality of the shoes must conform to guidelines established and presented throughout this booklet: shoes must be flat/level; have proper nail placement and fit; have a smooth finish with no sharp edges (extensions should be boxed); stock width and/or thickness must be maintained (not altered by any modification).
- A shoe may have more than one modification but must be useable.
- Candidates must understand the applications and the functions of the modifications and demonstrate that understanding in an oral examination. (See shoe display requirements beginning on pg. 12)
- Candidates will make one modification that is fitted to an assigned pattern at the test site. The time limit for this demonstration is 30 minutes. The Approved Examiner will assign the modification to be made and the foot pattern to be used.
- Candidates must provide all tools, equipment, and materials used for the on-site demonstration/modification.
- Decisions made concerning the usage of power tools at the examination site will apply to the demonstration shoe. (This decision is made on site by the Approved Examiner and is based on safety issues.)

HORSESHOE DISPLAY MODIFICATION DESCRIPTIONS

1. Clips (Toe and Quarter)

- Clip is properly located. **(figures 1, 2)**
- Clip is thicker at the base and tapers to a thinner peak. **(figure 3)**
- Clip base is not so thick as to require excessive hot seating in order to be properly fitted, damage a nail hole, or disrupt the shape or stock dimension. **(figures 3, 4)**
- Clip is not sharply pointed. **(figure 1, 2)**
- Clip has no cold shuts and the source hole is an appropriate size. **(figures 3, 4)**
- Clip is approximately as high and wide as twice the thickness of the stock. **(figures 1, 2)**
- Clip is pitched at the same angle as the wall. **(figure 3)**

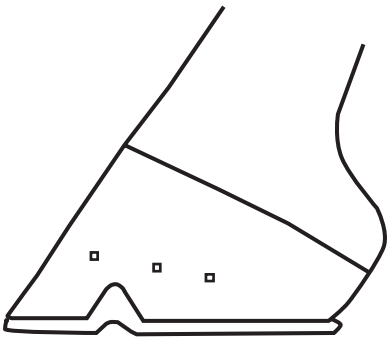


figure 1

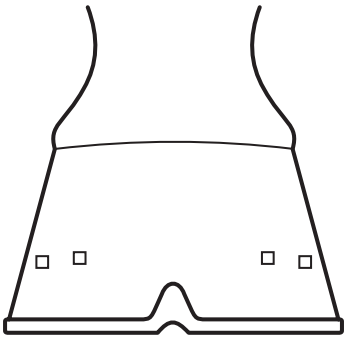


figure 2

figure 3

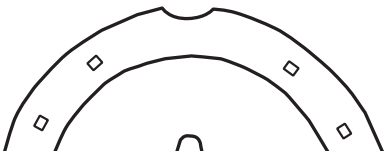


figure 4

2. Square Toe

- Square toe of the shoe is centered on the toe of the hoof and perpendicular to the centerline of the foot (from heel to toe). **(figures 5, 6)**
- The leading edge is straight, and the lateral edges (or corners) are not excessively rounded. **(figure 6)**
- The leading edge is fitted to be set back from the toe of the foot/pattern ½ of width of the shoe stock. **(figure 6)**

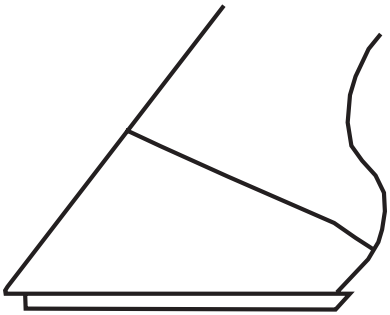


figure 5

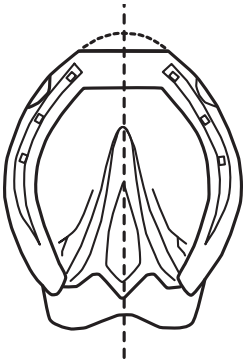


figure 6

3. Rolled Toe

- Rolled toe is centered on the toe of the hoof and perpendicular to the centerline of foot (from heel to toe). **(figure 8)**
- The roll extends from toe nail to toe nail. **(figure 8)**
- Approximately ½ the width of shoe stock is left at full thickness. **(figures 7, 8)**
- The modification does not alter stock width.

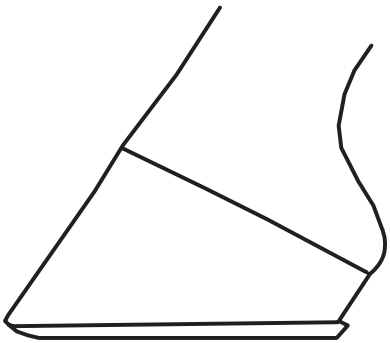


figure 7

figure 8

4. Rocker Toe

- Rocker is centered on the toe of the shoe and perpendicular to the center line of foot. **(figure 10)**
- The rocker incorporates ½ to ¾ of the width of the shoe stock on the hoof-bearing surface. **(figure 10)**
- The ground surface is rockered to form approximately a right angle to the dorsal hoof wall at the center of the toe. **(figure 9)**
- The hoof surface behind the rocker is flat, with the bend crisp, clean, and neat.
- The ground-bearing surface behind the rocker is flat and on the same plane as the rest of the ground-bearing surface of the shoe. **(figures 9, 10)**

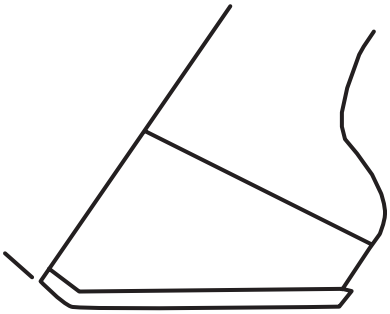
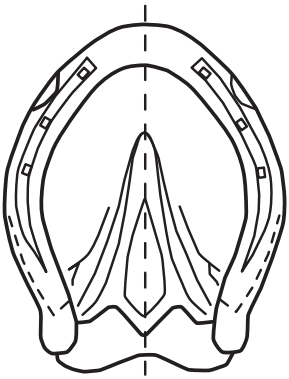


figure 9

figure 10

5. Hind Shoe with Extended Heels

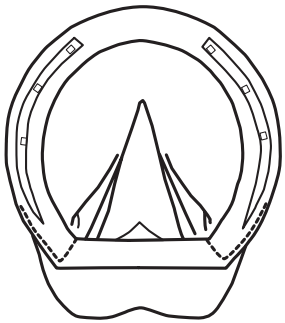
- Heel extensions provide support behind the heels of the foot.
- Heel extensions are parallel with the centerline of the foot.
- Extensions are as long as the shoe stock is wide (with the length of the modification being measured from the center of the web of the shoe).
- Extensions are not narrowed, pointed, or trailered out from the centerline of the foot.
- Extensions are level with the ground-bearing surface of the hoof and the rest of the shoe.
- Extensions are appropriately boxed.



Hind Shoe with Extended Heels

6. Straight Bar Shoe

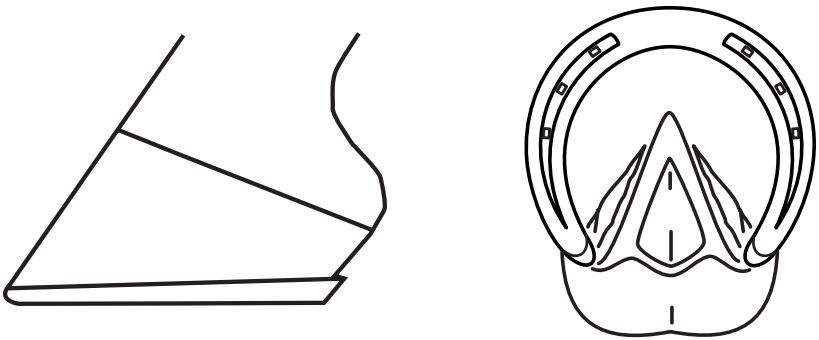
- The outer perimeter edge of the bar is straight and perpendicular with the centerline of the foot.
- The inside perimeter edge of the bar may be set down (tapering toward the toe on the ground-bearing surface), flat, or have a frog plate.
- The bar is solidly welded or brazed by forge fire, torch, or electric arc welder.



Straight Bar Shoe

7. Shoe to Raise Hoof Angle

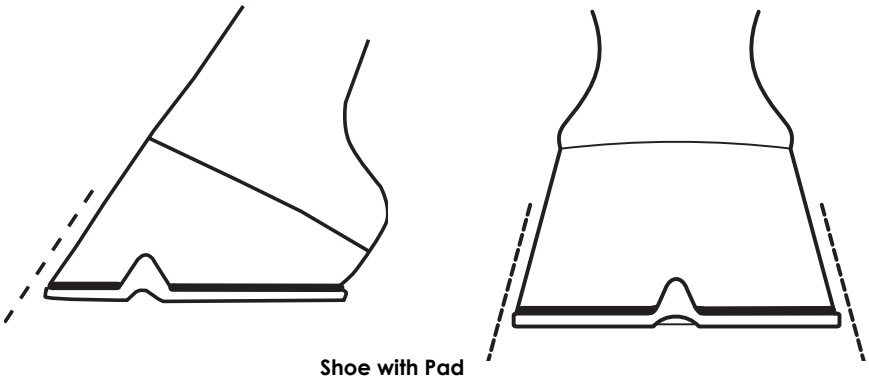
- Heels are thickened enough to elevate the dorsal wall angle of the hoof.
- The shoe may incorporate thickened/swelled heels, or it may incorporate a lift (as in a Patten Bar or spavin shoe).
- A properly applied wedge pad is an acceptable form of modification.
- Heel caulks are not an acceptable modification for this category.



Shoe to Raise Hoof Angle

8. Shoe with Pad (finished as if on foot)

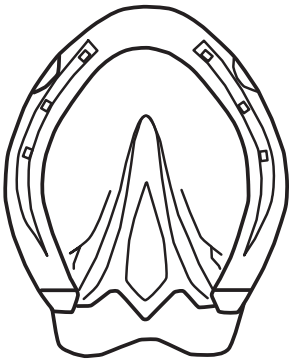
- The pad is secured to the shoe.
- The shoe is slightly fuller and longer than the foot/pattern (to compensate for pad thickness).
- The pad's perimeter is shaped to fit the outer perimeter of the shoe and is beveled to the same angle as the hoof wall.
- The bevel of the pad at the toe and the quarters equals the thickness of the pad.
- The heels are appropriately boxed



Shoe with Pad

9. Two types of Traction Devices

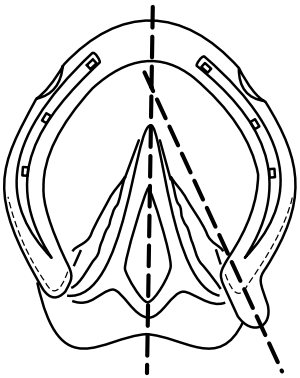
- All traction devices are manufactured or applied by the candidate
- Acceptable applications may include, but are not limited to, creasing / fullering, toe grabs, screw-in or drive-in studs, block heels, jar caulks, carbide particles (borium or drill tech).



Two types of Traction Devices

10. Trailer

- The trailer extends laterally from the centerline of the foot and is longer than the medial heel.
- The trailer is approximately as long as the bar stock is wide (when measured from the center of the web of the shoe).
- The modification retains the dimension of the stock.
- The extension is appropriately boxed.



Trailer

11. Punched Nail Hole

- The punched nail is properly positioned and pitched at or in front of the widest part of the foot, so as not to interfere with the physiology of the foot.
- An appropriate nail, matching the shoe size, must be supplied by the candidate with this modification.

Punched Nail Hole

HORSESHOE DISPLAY ORAL PRESENTATION

Candidates must be prepared to provide definitions for and explanations of all modifications, including, but not limited to, concerns such as

- Instances or situations where the particular shoe/modification would be used
- When the modification would be applied and/or removed.
- How the modification should be applied.
- Disadvantages or detriments associated with particular modifications
- Alternative modifications or devices

CHAPTER 4

Certified Tradesman Farrier

AFA CERTIFIED TRADESMAN FARRIER (CTF) REQUIREMENTS

PREREQUISITES

Candidates must have specific knowledge of the profession and at least two years of horseshoeing experience. They must have successfully completed the Certified Farrier examination.

EXAMINATION COMPONENTS

1. Written Examination

Format: Multiple choice and True/False questions
Passing: 80% or higher

Written Examination Study Outline

This examination requires more specific knowledge than the two previous, and considerably more study time must be devoted to passing it. Medical terminology applies to all anatomical aspects. Some questions pertaining to the AFA Certification testing rules and procedures may be included.

Bones, Cartilage, and Joints: Demonstrate knowledge of all the bones, cartilage, and joints in both front and hind limbs of the horse. Understand how bones are formed and protected, how they function, and their associated problems. Know comparisons between human and equine anatomy.

Tendons and Ligaments: Correctly identify and define functions, origins, and insertions of all tendons and ligaments of both front and hind limbs. Know pastern, collateral, annular, capsular, and navicular ligaments. Recognize the effects of changing medial/lateral and anterior/posterior hoof balance on individual tendons and ligaments.

Blood Circulation: Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the circulatory system with special emphasis on the hoof.

Hoof Structures: Know, in detail, all elastic and inelastic hoof structures.

Pathology: Demonstrate a knowledge of conditions such as bowed tendons, gravel, compensatory lameness, splints, thrush, laminitis, founder, ringbone, sidebone, bone spavin, carpitis, curb, shoe boils, corns, bucked shins, osslets, sheared heels, pedal osteitis, stringhalt, and navicular lameness. Know what structures are involved and how the horse is affected. Know what a farrier may do to help the horse. Recognize factors in identifying and locating lameness.

Horseshoes: Demonstrate an understanding of the design and function of various types of horseshoes and how their features may affect the horse.

Gaits and Movement: Define and identify the gaits of the horse. Identify contributing causes of limb interference and movement problems. Demonstrate an understanding of how to prevent or work with the problems.

2. Practical Examination (2 Parts)

Part 2a- Shoeing

Format: Hands-on performance examination. Candidates shoe all four feet with keg shoes using appropriate shoes and nails. Candidates will forge toe clips for front shoes and quarter clips for hind shoes.

Time Limit: One and one-half hours (90 minutes). Old shoes may be removed before the time starts.

Scoring: Trimming and shoeing is examined and scored in three parts:

1. Hoof preparation: Scored during the examination's time limit.
2. Shoe preparation and fit: Scored during the examination's time limit.
3. Nailing, clinching, and finishing: Scored after the time limit.

Two scorers conduct all scoring for this exercise. These scorers may be any combination of Approved Examiners and/or Approved Testers. All scores are recorded on official score sheets.

Passing: 70% or higher. A minimum score of 70% on each part of the test is required before a candidate may proceed to the next part of the test. Failure to obtain 70% success in any area will require that the candidate stop work. Should a candidate be stopped for any reason, the Approved Examiner will provide reasons.

Part 2b- Forging of a Three-Quarter Fullered Open-Heel Shoe

Format: Hands-on performance examination. Candidates will forge a three-quarter fullered, open-heel shoe from appropriate bar stock. The shoe shall be forged to fit a pattern/foot provided by the Approved Examiner.

Time Limit: Thirty (30) minutes.
Scoring: The shoe will be judged from the guidelines presented within this booklet for shoe quality and fit. Two scorers evaluate this shoe. The scorers may be any combination of Approved Examiners and or Approved Testers. All scores are recorded on official score sheets.
Passing: 70% or higher.

CHAPTER 5

Certified Journeyman Farrier

AFA CERTIFIED JOURNEYMAN FARRIER (CJF) REQUIREMENTS

PREREQUISITES

Candidates must have specific and enhanced knowledge of the profession. Candidates for the Certified Journeyman Farrier examination must have at least two years shoeing experience and must have successfully completed the Certified Farrier examinations.

EXAMINATION COMPONENTS

1. Written Examination

Format: Multiple choice and True/False questions
Passing: 80% or higher

Written Examination Study Outline

This examination requires more specific knowledge than previous examinations, and considerably more study time is required for success. Medical terminology applies to all anatomical aspects. Some questions pertaining to the AFA Certification testing rules and procedures may be included.

Bones, Cartilage, and Joints: Demonstrate knowledge of all the bones, cartilage, and joints in both front and hind limbs of the horse. Understand how bones are formed and protected and how they function and their associated problems. Know comparisons between human and equine anatomy.

Tendons and Ligaments: Correctly identify and define functions, origins, and insertions of all tendons and ligaments of front and hind limbs. Know pastern, collateral, annular, capsular, and navicular ligaments. Recognize the effects of changing medial/lateral and anterior/posterior hoof balance on individual tendons and ligaments.

Blood Circulation: Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the circulatory system with special emphasis on the hoof.

Hoof Structures: Know, in detail, all elastic and inelastic hoof structures.

Pathology: Demonstrate a knowledge of conditions such as bowed tendons, gravel, compensatory lameness, splints, thrush, laminitis, founder, ringbone, sidebone, bone spavin, carpitis, curb, shoe boils, corns, bucked shins, osslets, sheared heels, pedal osteitis, stringhalt, and navicular lameness. Know what structures are involved and how the horse is affected. Know what a farrier may do to help the horse. Recognize factors in identifying and locating lameness.

Horseshoes: Demonstrate an understanding of the design and function of various types of horseshoes and how their features may affect the horse.

Gaits and Movements: Define and identify the gaits of the horse. Identify contributing causes of limb interference and movement problems. Demonstrate an understanding of how to prevent or mitigate the problems.

2. Practical Examination (2 Parts)

Part 2a- Shoeing

Format: Hands-on, performance examination. Candidates shoe all four feet with handmade shoes using appropriate bar stock and nails. Front shoes are to be toe-clipped, and hind shoes are to be quarter-clipped. Candidates are responsible for providing a horse handler.

Time Limit: Two hours (old shoes may be removed before time starts).

Scoring: Trimming and shoeing is examined and scored in three parts:

1. Hoof preparation: Scored during the examination's time limit
2. Shoe preparation and fit: Scored during the examination's time limit
3. Nailing, clinching and finishing: Scored after the time limit.

Two scorers evaluate work done in this exercise. The scorers may be any combination of Approved Examiners and/or Approved Testers. All scores are recorded on official score sheets.

Passing: 70% or higher. A minimum score of 70% on each part of the test is required before a candidate may proceed to the next part of the test. Failure to obtain 70% success in any area will require that the candidate stop work. Should a candidate be stopped for any reason, the Approved Examiner will provide reasons.

Part 2b-Forging of a Bar Shoe

Format: Hands-on, performance examination. Candidates forge a fire-welded, fullered, straight bar shoe from appropriate bar stock. The shoe must be forged to fit a pattern/foot provided by the Approved Examiner.

Time Limit: Thirty-five (35) minutes

Scoring: The weld will be judged "pass/fail". A passing weld is required

to proceed with scoring. A passing weld is sufficient to hold up under normal use. The bar shoe is judged from the guidelines presented within this booklet for shoe quality and fit. Two scorers evaluate work done in this exercise. These scorers may be any combination of Approved Examiners and/or Approved Testers. All scores are recorded on official score sheets.

Passing: 70% or higher.

CHAPTER 6

Specialty Endorsement
THERAPEUTIC ENDORSEMENT

PREREQUISITES

Designed to recognize farriers highly skilled in the area of therapeutic shoeing, the Therapeutic Specialty Endorsement involves challenging examinations and requires an in-depth knowledge of the treatment of lameness in horses. Candidates must have completed the Certified Journeyman Farrier examination and have five year's experience in this specialization. (This is not to be confused with five year's experience shoeing horses).

Candidates for this endorsement must be well informed in practical and theoretical issues relating to foot and hoof pathology, including, but not limited to, laminitis, navicular disease, pedal osteitis, coffin joint arthritis, spavins, bowed tendons, lacerated tendons, sprained and torn ligaments, bursitis, tendonitis, abscesses, hoof wall cracks, thrush, canker or ungulates, angular limb deformities, flexural deformities, splints, ringbone, sidebone, physitis, bone cysts, keratomas, hoof capsule deformities, articular and non-articular arthritis, ankylosis, arthrodesis, onychomychosis and gonitis.

EXAMINATION COMPONENTS

1. Written Examination

Format: Short Essay Questions
Time Limit: Two hours
Passing: 80% or higher

2. Forging Examination (2 Parts)

Part 2a- Specimen Display

Candidates will present seven previously prepared specimen shoes from a list of eleven shoes. Specimen shoes must be submitted and approved before the candidate may advance to the on-site forging demonstration and the oral presentations.

Part 2b- Forging Demonstration

Candidates must forge a particular shoe and fit it to a foot/pattern. The Approved Examiners will designate the shoe to be made. A time limit of 60 or 90 minutes is allowed for the on-site demonstration. Time granted is at the discretion of the Approved Examiner.

3. Oral Presentations (2 Parts)

Part 3a-Case Presentation

Candidates will present two different, previously completed therapeutic cases. The 5-15 minute presentations should include pictures, slides, radiographs, and/or videos.

Part 3b-Oral Lecture

Candidates will deliver a 15-20 minute extemporaneous lecture on a topic chosen by the Approved Examiner. Candidates will be advised of possible topics prior to the examination, but will not be advised of the specific topic until 20 minutes prior to the presentation. Candidates may use the 20-minute time period to prepare the presentation. However, they are not allowed to reference materials or individuals during this time. Candidates are welcome to cite any text or article from memory during the lecture.

Specimen Shoes (General Specifications)

- All shoes must be useable.
- Shoes must be level and have appropriate nail hole placement and nail fit.
- Nails are to be submitted with shoes.
- Shoes that do not fulfill basic requirements of Certified Journeyman Farrier quality of work will be rejected.
- Unless otherwise indicated, all shoes are to be handmade and fullered.
- Steel or aluminum bar stock size should be appropriate to the shoe/foot size selected
- Electric, arc, or oxy-acetylene welding, and/or brazing may be used only for the continuous rim shoe. All other modifications that require joinery are to be forge welded.
- All extensions should maintain stock thickness consistent with the rest of the shoe.

Specimen Shoe List (with Brief Descriptions)

Heart Bar Shoe: May be straight or eggbar. The frog support bar is to be the same thickness as the rest of the shoe. The toe is to be rockered to a minimum of 30 degrees.

Front Eggbar Shoe: Fullered, with rocker toe and quarter clipped between the first and second nail holes. Heel position should be indicated by using a marker on the foot surface of the shoe.

Continuous Rim Shoe (for distal phalanx fracture): A fullered, straight bar shoe with a rim (which may be forged as part of the shoe or welded to the shoe) set at a 50-degree angle to the shoe. The rim should be no less than 3/8" and no more than 1" above the foot surface of the shoe and should extend from behind the widest part of the shoe on one side, around the toe to behind the widest part of the shoe on the opposite side.

Treatment Plate (Hospital Shoe): A fullered, straight bar shoe with a removable treatment plate. If the plate is bolted from the ground surface, four bolts must be used. All bolts and threaded holes should be interchangeable, with no bolts or threads extending above the foot surface of the shoe. Alternatively, a walking treatment plate may be made, with the plate mortised into the rocker toe shoe, with screw or bolt fixation.

Anterior Extension Shoe: An open-heel or bar shoe with an anterior extension. The extension must extend a minimum of ½ the width and a maximum of the full stock width forward from the normal curve of the toe. The extension should be no wider than the widest part of the shoe and no narrower than the distance between the toenails. The thickness of the extension must be the same as the rest of the shoe.

Lateral (Medial) Extension Shoe: An open heel or bar shoe with a clip on the side opposite the extension. The extension will be no larger than the space enclosed by a line tangent to the front of the toe and a line tangent to the widest part of the branch, but may be smaller. The apex of the extension is to be not less than 3/8" wider than the width of the shoe stock. The thickness of the extension is the same as the rest of the shoe.

Fullered Patten Bar Shoe: The rocker toe of the shoe is to sit level with the bar. The ground surface of the bar is to be as wide as the widest part of the shoe. The elevation of the heels relative to the toe must be between 1" and 2".

Wedge Shoe: Plain stamped or fullered, there must be a minimum of 2 degrees wedge effect from heel to toe.

Aluminum Bar Shoe: A device to increase wear resistance at the toe is required. This may be a wear plate or nails placed at the toe.

Spavin Shoe: Plain-stamped, with rocker toe.

Deep Seated Straight Bar Shoe: Fullered heel to heel, seated out on sole surface.

CHAPTER 7

Rules for Certification Examinations

1. All AFA Certification examinations will be governed by the rules set forth in this booklet; however, candidates are advised to check the AFA website (www.americanfarriers.org) to determine if any updates / revisions are posted. Any updates / revisions posted on the website will supersede the printed materials set forth in this booklet.

2. AFA Farrier™, Certified Farrier™, Certified Tradesman Farrier™, Certified Journeyman Farrier™, and Therapeutic Endorsement tests are standard and no substitutes may be used.

3. No Approved Examiner may conduct AFA examinations without advance approval, obtained by filing a Certification Sponsorship Application. All applications must be on file with the AFA Office at least 60 days prior to the certification date.

4. There must be at least one (1) Approved Examiner at any/every AFA Certification.

5. The order/sequence for administering examination components will be determined by the Approved Examiner.

6. Approved Examiners or Approved Testers may not examine their past or present students, employers, employees, or apprentices.

7. Written examinations may not be used, in part or whole, in any pre-certification clinics.

8. Candidates may not shoe their own or their client's horse for any examination.

Fees and Remuneration

9. Each fee entitles the candidate to take one level of the test at one test site. There will be no retesting at the same event.

10. Sponsor organizations may charge an additional fee to offset expenses.

11. No fee will be charged by the AFA to update current Certified Journeyman Farriers.

12. Approved Examiners and Approved Testers shall not receive remuneration in excess of actual expenses.

Conduct

13. No one is to offer advice or assistance to a candidate during any portion of the examination.

14. Any disrespect to the Approved Examiners and/or Approved Testers by candidates shall result in failure of the examination.

15. There shall be no alcoholic beverages consumed - by participants or spectators - at the event site. Violators will be instructed to leave by the sponsoring organization and/or the Approved Examiner.

Time Limits

16. Time limits are strictly adhered to. Exceeding the specified time limit for any examination component will result in disqualification/failure for that component (exception: candidates going over time on the CF exams may opt to apply their time and continue in an effort to meet the requirements for AFA Farrier classification.)

17. Time variance may be given at the discretion of the Approved Examiner for equipment failure or other exceptional circumstances. Candidates may not touch the horse's feet or shoes or otherwise continue the examination during the variance.

18. Candidates are not required to pass all sections of the examination on the same day or through the same host group.

19. Candidates must pass all sections of an examination within a two-year period.

20. Scores are not official until recorded at the AFA office. The Approved Examiner and the sponsor organization are responsible for submitting complete, accurate reports of examination results to the Certification Chairman within 10 working days of the examination date.

21. An Approved Examiner may not preside over a certification (other than written examinations) sponsored by the same organization for more than two (2) consecutive examinations.

22. At all levels, practical exams are sequential, and a candidate must pass each section in order (e.g., Candidates who do not have a passing score on Foot Preparation may not proceed to Shoe Quality and Fit.)

23. A score of three (3) or below in any category will result in a failure of the test.

24. Continuation of an examination in the event a candidate draws blood is at the discretion of the Approved Examiner.

Tools

25. Use of power tools is at the discretion of the Approved Examiner and is based upon site and safety considerations.

26. Stall jacks are allowed.

Written Test

27. Candidates will turn off all electronic devices, including cell phones and pda's during the examination.

28. While taking the written test, candidates may not converse, use written notes, books, or other study aids.

29. Upon completion of the written test, candidates must leave the test area. After all tests are completed, they may return to the test area.

30. Written tests may be taken orally. Requests for oral tests should be made in advance.

31. The Approved Examiner and/or Testers will individually review written exams with candidates, providing a synopsis and overview of the general categories where problems occurred. Specific questions will not be reviewed.

CHAPTER 8

Study Guide Book List

The following books, listed alphabetically by author, may be useful in studying for the AFA Certification examinations in addition to the AFA Certification Guide. These texts are available from many farrier supply outlets, bookstores, and libraries.

Butler, Doug. *The Principles of Horseshoeing III*. LaPorte, CO: Butler Publishing, 2004.

Curtis, Simon. *Corrective Farriery: A Textbook of Remedial Horseshoeing*. Volume 1. Curtis, 2002.

Curtis, Simon. *Farriery - Foal to Race Horse*. Newmarket, United Kingdom, R & W Publications Ltd, 1999.

Rooney, James R. *The Lame Horse, Causes, Symptoms and Treatment*. Neenah, WI, Russell Meerdink Company, 1998

Simpson, Scott. *The Identification, Analysis and Correction of Gait Faults in Horses*. Walla Walla, WA, Last Chance Ranch Enterprises. 1989

Stashak, Ted. *Adams' Lameness in Horses*. Philadelphia: Lea & Farber, 1987.

Yovich, John V. "The Equine Foot." *Veterinary Clinics of North America: Equine Practice,* Volume 5/ Number 1, 1989.

Hood, David M. "Laminitis." *Veterinary Clinics of North America: Equine Practice,* Volume 15/Number 2, 1999.

There are many excellent texts which are not on this list. A variety of resources are available in other media (e.g., video, DVD, conference proceedings, etc.) as well. Candidates should study from as many sources as possible.

CHAPTER 9

Guidelines for Evaluating Farrier Certifications

The following guidelines, updated and revised by the AFA's Certification Committee, provide an excellent gauge for evaluating farriery. Nevertheless, acceptance of these guidelines as a standard method to shoe a horse is not our goal. Instead, these guidelines provide criteria to enable standardized evaluation of skill levels by Certification Examiners and Testers. These guidelines are not the only standard to which horses are shod, but they represent solid, basic, and traditional practice and are suitable to a selective evaluation process.

This 2008 edition of the AFA Certification Guide represents a work in progress which takes into account current research in veterinary medicine, farriery, equine research, and historical sources.

-AFA Certification Committee

PRACTICAL EVALUATION

1. Hoof Preparation

Level (figures 21, 22)

10 The entire hoof is on an even plane and is in contact with a flat shoe.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of unevenness which could be corrected without harming the horse.

2 Nipping/rasping is rough and uneven around the entire hoof wall, with no level surfaces apparent.

Balance *(Since balance is subjective, evaluation will be made on the criteria established below)*

10 The horse stands in the middle of the hoof, and the ground surface of the hoof wall is trimmed perpendicular to the centerline of the hoof capsule above it.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in balance which could be corrected without harming the horse.

2 One side of the hoof wall is lowered to a point that correction is not possible without laming the horse or resorting to the use of shims.

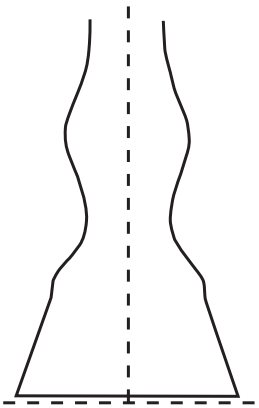


figure 21

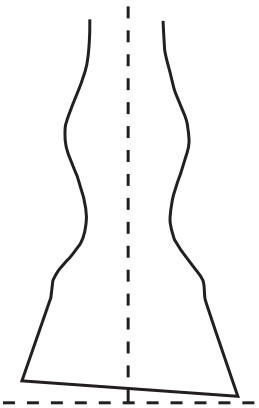


figure 22

Angle (figure 23)

10 Hoof and pastern angles are parallel. Paired feet match each other. The farrier has made every effort to make hoof and pastern angles parallel.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in the angle which could be corrected without harming the horse.

2 The hoof deviates from the pastern angle due to poor nipping and/or rasping. It cannot be corrected by further nipping or rasping at this time.

Length (figure 24)

10 The hoof is cut to an appropriate, sound length and matches its mate.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in length that could be corrected without harming the horse.

2 The hoof is cut excessively short or left too long, and cannot be corrected at this time.

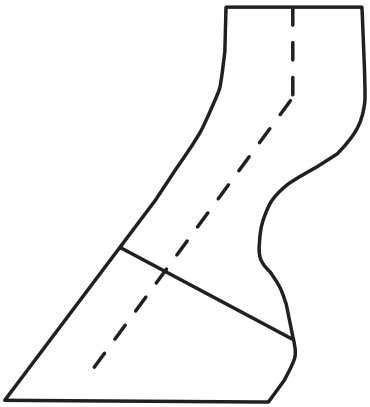


figure 23

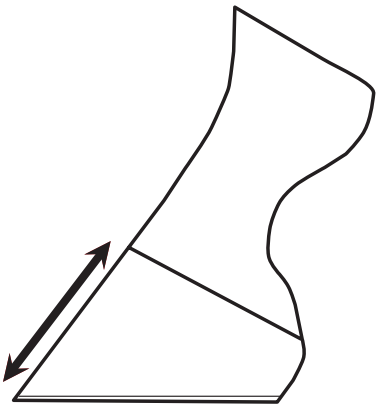


figure 24

Sole

10 The sole is pared (if necessary) to an appropriate, sound depth. Bars and sole have not been weakened by excessive paring or rasping. The Seat of Corns are pared to be non-weight bearing.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in paring which could be corrected without harming the horse.

2 The sole is pared too thin (and yields under light thumb pressure)

Frog

10 The frog is pared (if necessary) to be neat and smooth. The heel bulbs are smooth and free of burrs.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in paring which could be corrected without harm to the horse.

2 The frog has been pared excessively, exposing sensitive structures which could cause lameness

Wall Dressing (figures 25 and 26)

10 The hoof wall is straight. All dishes and flares removed smoothly from the coronary band to the ground or (at least) the bottom two-thirds of the hoof.

8,6,4,2 There are varying degrees of error (e.g., dubbing, over or under dressing of dishes and/or flares) which could be corrected without harming the horse or endangering secure nailing.

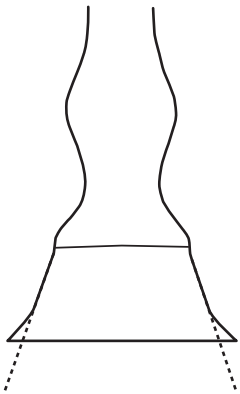


figure 25

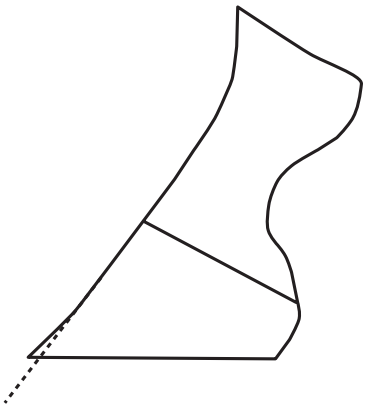


figure 26

2. Shoe Quality and Fit

Shoe level

10 The shoe is flat in all aspects.

8,6,4, There are varying degrees of error in flatness which could be corrected with additional or better work.

2 The shoe is grossly out of level and should not be nailed.

Clips (Figure 27-30)

10 The clip is properly located, is thick at the base and tapers to a thin peak, is not sharply pointed, has no cold shuts on the back side, and the source hole is appropriately sized.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in location, thickness, taper, width, height, sharpness, and size of source hole.

2 There is a gross exaggeration/combination of poor features.

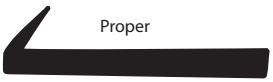


figure 27

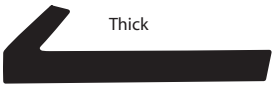


figure 28

figure 29

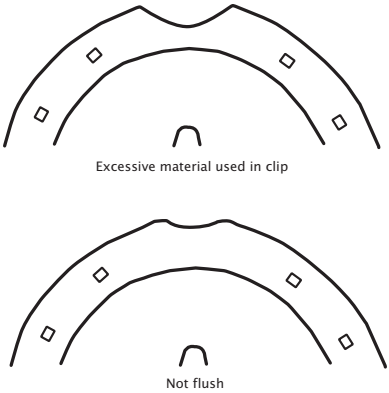


figure 30

Finish

10 The shoe is smoothly finished without sharp edges, burns, or hammer, and rasp marks.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in finish which could have been avoided by additional or better work.

2 The shoe is excessively sharp and rough.

Forging

10 The shoe is forged so that the width of the shoe stock is not pinched or spread excessively in any one spot in relation to its original dimension. The shoe has been seated away from the sole so the inside edge is not thicker than the outside edge. No other forging mistakes are present.

8,6,4,2 There are varying degrees of forging mistakes present

Nail Hole Location (figure 31)

10 Nail holes are properly located from toe to quarters, and are evenly spaced (unless prevented by hoof conditions).

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in location of holes which are not justified by hoof conditions.

2 There is gross error in location of nail holes.

figure 31

Nail Hole Position (figures 32 and 33)

10 Nail holes are located over the white line.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in depth which result in too fine or coarse nailing. Use of nail holes will not result in injury or harm to the horse.

2 Use of nail holes will result in injury to the horse.

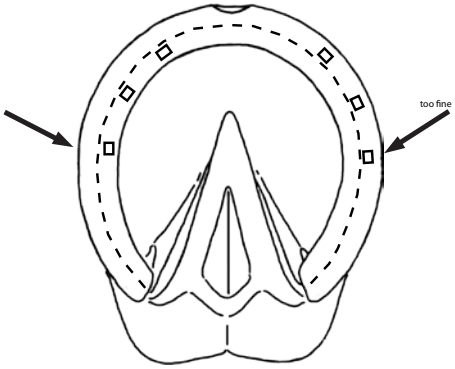


figure 32

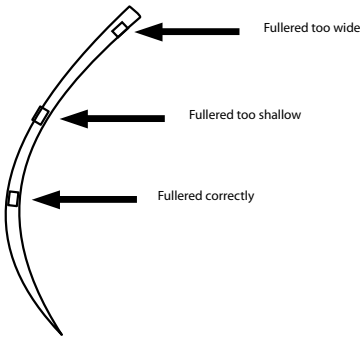


figure 33

Nail Hole Shape and Fullering (figure 34)

10 Fullering starts slightly before the toe nail and ends past the heel nail. The depth of the fullering remains the same through all the nail holes. Position of fullering in the web allows nails to exit on the white line. The fullering or head stamp and pritchel hole fits the nail and has appropriate pitch. The web of the shoe is not wider where fullered than through the toe of the shoe.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error resulting in insecure nailing. The shoe is not properly forged to maintain width of web.

2 Bad features predominate, and the shoe should not be nailed on a horse.

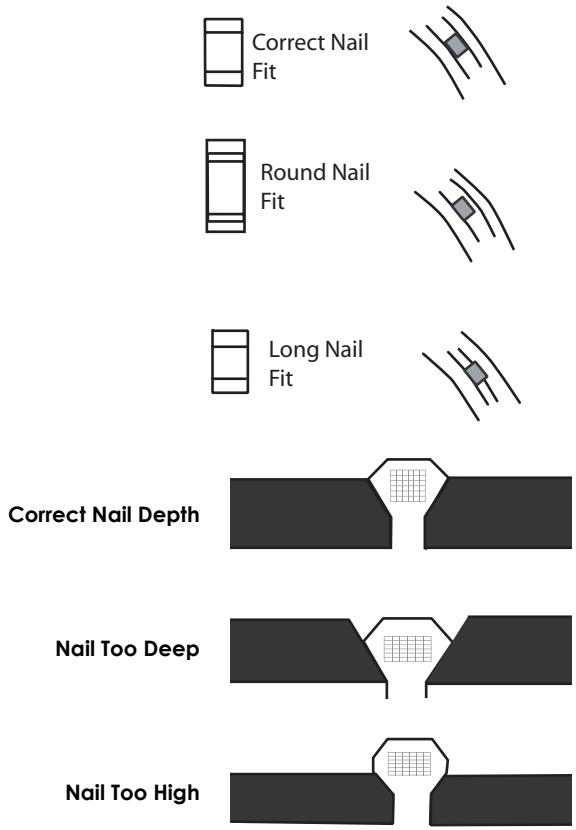


figure 34

3. Nailing, Finish, and Fit

Shoe Fit

Fit

10 The shoe fits the properly trimmed and dressed hoof.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in fitting (e.g., toe too narrow/ wide, branches not following the quarter bends, heels too short or long, toe dubbed, heels of the hoof open to fit short shoe, etc.).

2 Most of the bad characteristics above exist in the fit. Shoe should not be nailed on a horse.

Wall Contact (Figure 35)

10 The shoe is in contact with the hoof wall unless some of the wall is missing

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of lack of wall contact with the shoe which could have been corrected.

2 There is a gross lack of wall contact, and the shoe should not be nailed on a horse.

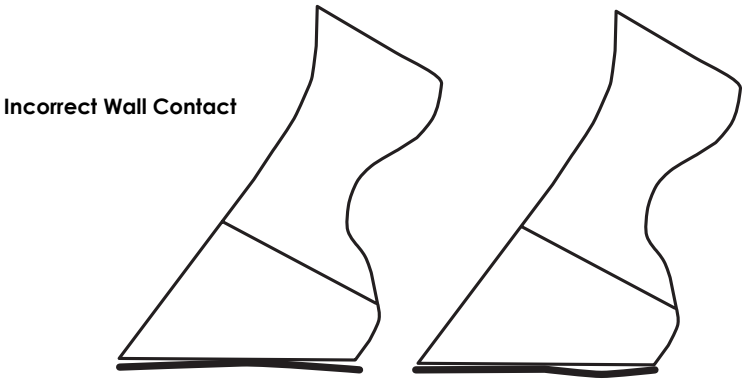


figure 35

Sole Pressure

10 The hoof surface of the shoe contacts no more than 1/8" of live sole. The seats of corn do not bear weight.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in too much/little sole pressure.

2 The sole has been excessively pared, and the condition cannot be remedied at this time.

Expansion

(The correct amount of expansion varies with hoof conformation. Candidates must select expansion categories prior to selecting/ forging, and fitting shoes. All expansion categories (a, b, & c) maintain 1/16" of flat bearing surface with the remainder of expansion boxed).

10 A. An upright or club foot is fitted with expansion equal to the width of a dime (1/16").

B. A normal, balanced foot is fitted with expansion equal to the width of two dimes (1/8").

C. An under-run foot is fitted with expansion equal to the width of three dimes (3/16").

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in providing room on the shoe for expansion of the hoof.

2 There is too much/little expansion. Hoof wall has been removed to simulate expansion.

Heel Length (figure 36)

(The correct length varies with hoof conformation. Candidates must select heel length and expansion categories prior to selecting/ building & fitting shoes. All heel length categories (a, b, & c) will maintain 1/16" of flat bearing surface with the remainder of length boxed).

10 A. An upright or club foot is fit with length equal to the width of a dime (1/16").

B. A normal, balanced foot is fit with length equal to the width of two dimes (1/8").

C. An under-run foot is fit with length equal to the width of three dimes (3/16").

8,6,4 There are varying errors in heel lengths

2 Heels are severely short or excessively long and could cause injury to the horse.

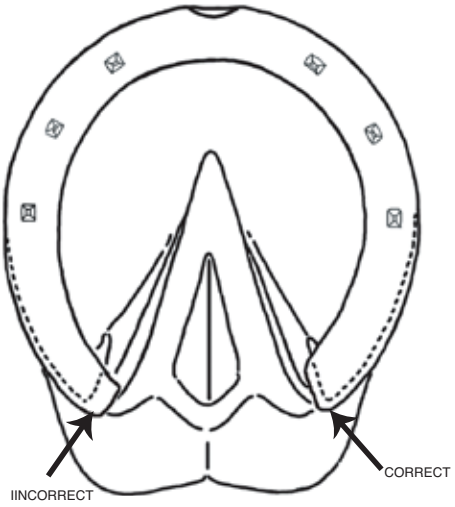


figure 36

Clip Fit

10 The receiving hole in the hoof wall fits the clip that is drawn. The clip is within the perimeter of the hoof and clip hole.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in the fit of the clip to its receiving hole.

2 There is gross error in fitting the clip to the receiving hole.

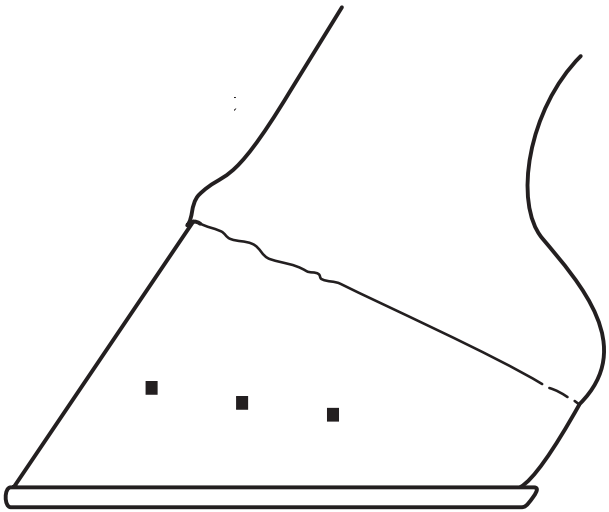
Nailing

Height (figure 37)

10 Nails exit the wall 1/3 the height of the wall at the heel nail, and ascend toward the toe. They are 2/3's the distance from the coronary band to the ground.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in exit height of nails

2 There is extreme error in exit height of nails.



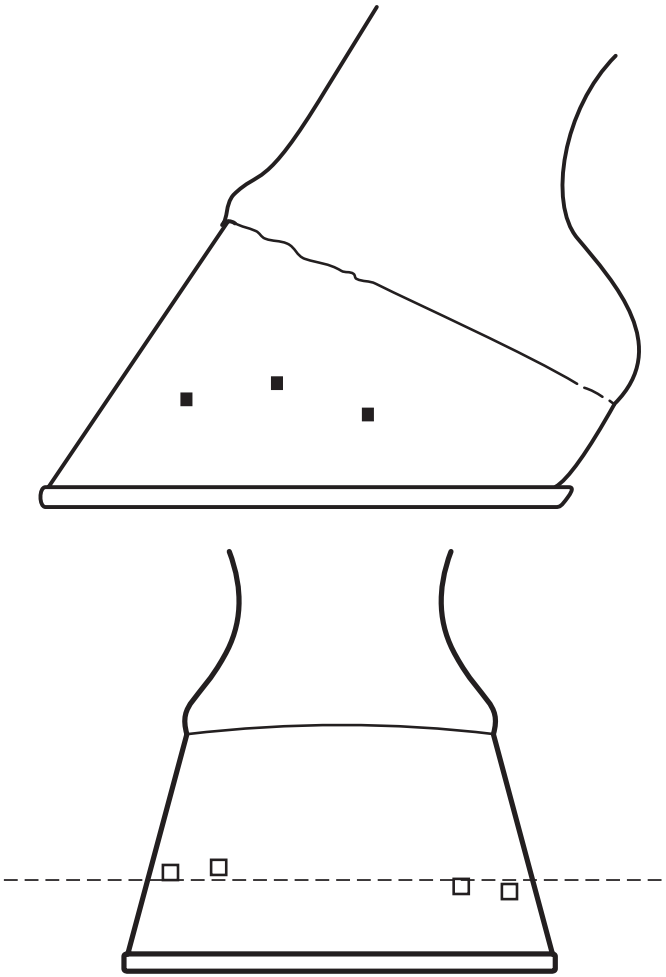
Correct Nail Height and Alignment
figure 37

Alignment (Figure 38)

10 The nails exit the hoof wall in a straight line parallel to the coronary band

8,6,4 There are varying degree of error in the alignment of the nails.

2 There is extreme misalignment of the nails which may result in injury to the horse or an insecure nailing job.



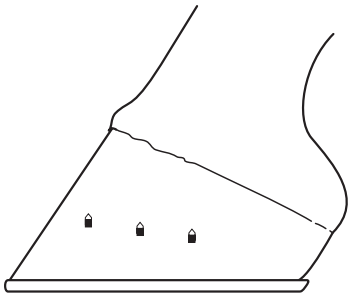
Incorrect Nail Height and Alignment
figure 38

Clinches (figure 39)

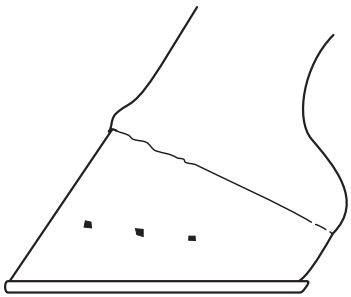
10 All clinches are square, set into the wall, and in alignment with the nail shaft

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in clinching (e.g., over-blocked, racked, ragged, rasped too thin).

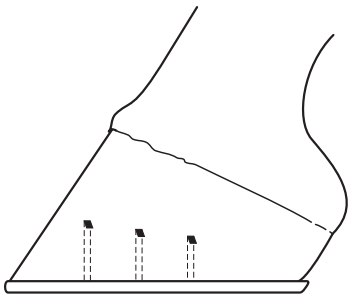
2 The clinches may not hold shoe securely for a serviceable period.



Overblocked Clinches



Ragged Clinches



Racked Clinches

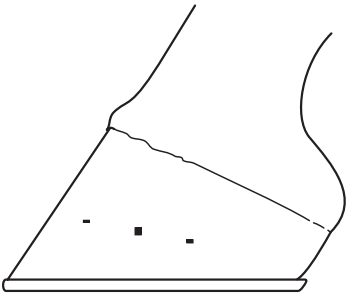
figure 39

Uniformity (Figure 40)

10 Clinches are identical, strong, square, and set into the wall.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in clinches (e.g., weak, pointed, thin, short/long, not set into wall).

2 The clinches are dangerous or do not secure shoe to the hoof.



Non-uniform Clinches

figure 40

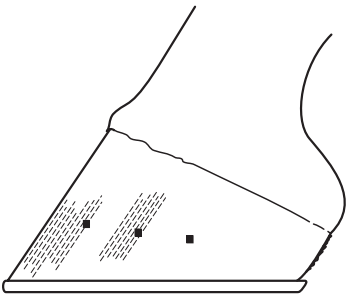
Hoof Finish

Wall (Figure 41)

10 The hoof wall is smooth.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in finish of the hoof wall with the rasp.

2 The hoof wall is rough, excessively rasped, and not straight due to rasping.



Rasp Marks and Unclean Heel

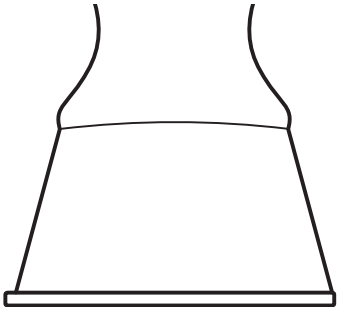
figure 41

Edges (figure 42)

10 The hoof and shoe have no sharp edges which could cause injury.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of error in not removing sharp edges from hoof/shoe.

2 There are sharp edges on the shoe or hoof which could harm the horse.



Incorrect **Correct**

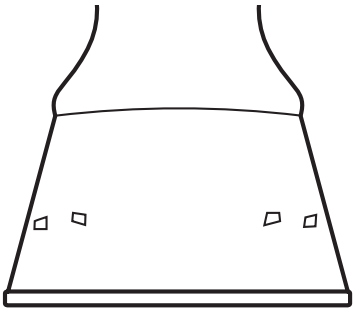
figure 42

Clinch Finish (Figure 43)

10 All clinches are tight to the wall with no sharp edges. The clinches are well fitted into the wall.

8,6,4 There are varying degrees of poor finish of the clinches.

2 The clinches are not finished or set into the wall.



Rough Clinch Finish

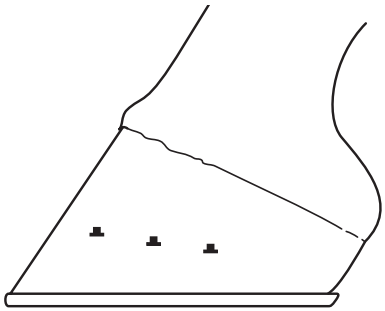
figure 43

Under Clinch Rasping (Figure 44)

10 Although it has been set flush with the wall, there is no evidence of rasp marks or over gouging under the clinch.

8,6,4 There are varying errors in over/under rasping or gouging beneath clinch.

2 Under clinch burrs have not been removed or the wall is deeply grooved.



Grooved Under Clinch Rasping
figure 44

Shoe Position

10 The shoe has been nailed where it was intended, with no slippage or movement from the original fit.

8,6,4 The shoe has shifted or moved to varying degrees when nailed.

2 The shoe has grossly shifted or moved.

APPENDIX A

Certification Sponsor Guidelines

1. Provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance
   - Sponsors should submit this document to the AFA office along with their Certification Sponsorship Application.
   - The insurance must be for an amount of $1,000,000.00 or greater and must list the AFA as an additional insured.

2. Appoint a Certification Coordinator
   - Acts as the contact person
   - Handles all advance organization.

3. Schedule an Approved Examiner
   - Select an Approved Examiner.
   - Schedule the event date(s) with the Approved Examiner
   - Review and coordinate procedures with the Approved Examiner.

4. Reserve site / facilities for scheduled date(s).
   - Water, electricity and restrooms are a must.
   - Ensure that comfortable, quiet, well lighted room, chairs, tables or desks are available.
   - Spacious, clean, well lighted, flat (preferably) covered areas are available for practical work.
   - Forges must be allowed in the chosen facility.

5. Send application to the Area Supervisor
   - Complete the Certification Sponsorship Application in full. This includes identifying the Certification Coordinator, location of the Certification, levels and areas to be tested, the names of the Approved Examiner and the Approved Testers.
   - Submit the completed Certification Sponsorship Application including Certificate of Insurance to the Area Supervisor at least 70 days prior to the event date. The Area Supervisor must sign the application before it can be submitted to the AFA Office.

- The AFA Office must receive the Sponsorship Application from the Area Supervisor at least 60 days prior to the event.
- The Office will confirm the event date by letter upon final approval. Letters of confirmation will be sent to the Certification Coordinator, Approved Examiner, and Certification Committee Chair.

6. Develop an agenda and tentative schedule, which allots time for
   - Staff Orientation Meeting… provides the Approved Examiner with an opportunity to give instructions to and coordinate final plans with the Certification Coordinator, Approved Testers, Approved/Provisional Examiners and/or Provisional Testers, and other staff before meeting with candidates.
   - Candidate Orientation Meeting
     - The Certification Coordinator reviews the event schedule and gives instructions before the tests begin.
     - The Certification Rules are read to the candidates.
     - Candidates have the opportunity to ask questions of the Certification Coordinator and Approved Examiner.
   - Written examinations… typically require 2 to 4 hours, including scoring.
   - Practical Examinations… require different time allocations:
     - Journeyman shoeing – minimum 3 hours per round
     - Certified Tradesman shoeing – minimum 2 hours per round
     - Certified and Intern shoeing – minimum 2 hours per round
     - Journeyman bar shoe – minimum 2 hours
     - Certified Tradesman fullered open heel shoe – minimum 2 hours.
     - Certified shoe display – minimum 2 hours
   - Breaks for meals should be scheduled for all staff. These may be staggered to accommodate schedule and facility.
   - Conclusion… allows the Approved Examiner and On-site Registrar to finalize paperwork.

7. Recruit, coordinate, and—where necessary—train staff
   - Certification Coordinator
     - Coordinates the organizational structure of the event in consultation with the Approved Examiner.
     - Recruits, trains, and supervises volunteers prior to and during certification.
     - Ensures volunteers are properly equipped.
     - Is available at all times during the event.
     - Responsible for final clean up of certification site.

- Approved Examiner
  - At least one Approved Examiner is required to supervise the process and ensure that the standards of the program are maintained.
  - Supervises the administration of all written and practical examinations.
  - Receives test fees at the end of the event.
  - Sends test fees, score sheets, answer forms, and certification result forms to the Area Supervisor in a timely manner.
- Approved Testers
  - One tester is needed for every five horses to be evaluated.
  - Only Approved or Provisional Testers may be used.
- On-Site Registrar
  - Pre-registers candidates by filling in needed candidate data on all forms.
  - Collects fees and gives receipts.
  - Record candidate data on the Certification Report Form.
  - Make individual test packets using pre-registration information.
  - Distribute test packets to candidates at certification site.
  - Provide pens/pencils for candidates during written exams, if needed.
  - Provide tape recorder and tape for any oral examination accommodations.
  - Make final accounting of all paper work and fees when the event is completed.
- Steward / Horse Wrangler
  - Organizes shoeing area and rig set up.
  - Arranges for suitable horses to be brought to the event site.
  - Provides extra horses in case of problems.
  - Supervises the assignment of horses to candidates under the direction of the Approved Examiner.
  - Ensures the safe handling and care of horses at the event site.
  - Furnishes replacement horse if needed.
  - Horse handlers are to be provided by each individual candidate.

8. Registration
   - Pre-registration is needed to facilitate planning for horses, staff, and materials.
     - Candidate data: Name, address, phone number, date of birth, AFA membership number
     - Level of certification and areas of the certification examination to be taken.
     - Special Accommodations – does the candidate require that the Written Exam be read or translated?

- Begin registration at least one hour before testing is to begin.
- Registrar:
  - Confirm accuracy of pre-registration data with each candidate.
  - Collect any unpaid fees and new AFA memberships.
  - Collect and attach any prior partial completion forms to current form. (Candidate's present partial completion forms indicating portions of an exam level successfully completed at a previous certification examination.).
  - Issue receipts and give candidates test packets with necessary forms.
  - Collect shoe displays to be evaluated.
  - Late registrations may be accepted at the discretion of the Certification Coordinator and the Approved Examiner.
  - Additional Considerations:
  - Extra Horses and Approved Testers

9. Assemble Test Packets
   - Use pre-registration information to fill out forms and make packets. Customize a test packet for each candidate to include:
     - New partial completion form with candidate data filled in.
     - Answer forms for written examination and score sheet(s) for practical examination(s). Include only pages needed by each individual candidate.
     - Certified Journeyman Farrier candidate
       - CJF Written Examination answer sheet, 1 copy
       - CJF Shoeing Practical score sheets, 2 copies
       - CJF Bar Shoe Practical score sheets, 2 copies
     - Certified Tradesman Candidate – 1 copy each
       - CJF Written Examination answer sheet
       - CTF Shoeing Practical score sheet
       - CTF Open Heel Shoe Practical score sheet.
     - Certified Farrier candidate – 1 copy each
       - CF Written Examination answer sheet
       - CF Shoeing Practical score sheet
       - CF Shoe Display score sheet
     - AFA Farrier candidate – 1 copy each
       -CF Written Examination answer sheet
       - CF Shoeing Practical score sheet
       - CF Shoe Display score sheet

APPENDIX B

Sample Score Sheets

All AFA Approved Examiners and Testers undergo a rigorous training process and attend regularly scheduled updates to ensure that scoring is "normed" and consistent. Candidate scores at AFA approved certifications are recorded on official scoring sheets.

Samples of these AFA score sheets and forms are included here to provide candidates with a clear idea of the categories to be evaluated. The following samples are representative of the process, although they may not be the actual forms utilized for a particular examination.

AFA CERTIFIED FARRIER Sample Score Sheet: Practical Exam

Name		Date	
Address		DOB	
City	State	Zip	
Phone			
Tester			

I. Hoof Preparation										
Angle (A/P balance)	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Length	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Balance	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Level (Flat)	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Sole	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Frog	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Hoof wall Dressing/Edges	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
49 POINTS MINIMUM TO PROCEED									**SUBTOTAL**	
II. Shoe Quality and Fit										
Shoe Level	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Shoe Forging/Finish	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Nail Hole Shape/Fit	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Shoe Form/Fit	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Nail Hole Exit Depth	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Sole Pressure	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Wall Contact	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Heel Length	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Expansion	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
63 POINTS MINIMUM TO PROCEED									**SUBTOTAL**	
III. Nailing, Finish and Fit										
Shoe Fit/Position	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Nail Hole Location	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Sole pressure	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Wall Contact	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Heel Length	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Expansion	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Nailing Height and Alignment	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Clinch Quality	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Finish	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
63 POINTS MINIMUM TO PROCEED									**SUBTOTAL**	
175 POINTS MINIMUM TO PASS									**TOTAL**	

TOTAL POSSIBLE - 250

Circle One PASS FAIL STOPPED OUT OF TIME _____%

SCORE TRANSFERRED TO PC FORM _____

INITIALS

AFA CERTIFIED FARRIER Sample Score Sheet: Horseshoe Display

Name		Date
Address		DOB
City	State	Zip
Phone		
Tester	PASS	FAIL

PART 1: Horseshoe Display
Check boxes for areas passed

All modifications shall have been manufactured or applied by the candidate

☐ All front shoes fit the same front foot (size and shape)
☐ All hind shoes fit the same hind foot (size and shape)

☐ Side Clips
☐ Toe Clip
☐ Square Toe
☐ Rolled Toe
☐ Rocker Toe
☐ Hind shoe with extended heels
☐ Barshoe
☐ Shoe to raise the hoof angle
☐ Shoe with pad finished as if on the foot
☐ Two types of traction devices
☐ Trailer
☐ Punched nail hole

PART 2: Explanation

Shoe feature(s) _____
EXPLANATION

PART 3: Demonstration

Shoe feature(s) _____
EXPLANATION

☐ Fit ☐ Quality

SCORE TRANSFERRED TO PC FORM _____
INITIALS

AFA CERTIFIED JOURNEYMAN FARRIER Sample Score Sheet: Practical Exam

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ DOB _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Tester _____

I. Hoof Preparation

Angle (A/P balance)	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Length	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Balance (M/L)	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Level (Flat)	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Sole	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Frog	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Hoof wall Dressing/Edges	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

49 POINTS MINIMUM TO PROCEED **SUBTOTAL**

II. Shoe Quality and Fit

Shoe Level	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Clip Quality	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Shoe Forging/Finish	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Nail Hole Shape/Fit	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Shoe Finish	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Shoe Fit	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Nail Hole Exit Depth	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Sole Pressure	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Wall Contact	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Heel Length	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Expansion	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Clip Fit	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

84 POINTS MINIMUM TO PROCEED **SUBTOTAL**

III. Nailing, Finish and Fit

Shoe Fit/Position	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Nail Hole Location	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Sole pressure	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Wall Contact	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Heel Length	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Expansion	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Nailing Height and Alignment	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Clinch Quality	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Finish	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

63 POINTS MINIMUM TO PROCEED **SUBTOTAL**

196 POINTS MINIMUM TO PASS **TOTAL**

TOTAL POSSIBLE - 280

Circle One PASS FAIL STOPPED OUT OF TIME _____%

SCORE TRANSFERRED TO PC FORM _____

INITIALS

AFA CERTIFIED JOURNEYMAN FARRIER Sample Score Sheet: Barshoe

Name		Date
Address		DOB
City	State	Zip
Phone		
Tester		

Candidates for AFA Certified Journeyman Farrier Certification will forge and fire weld a straight barshoe from appropriate bar stock. The shoe shall be forged to fit a pattern or foot provided by the Examiner. The shoe is to be fullered through the nail hole area.

The weld on the shoe will be judged **yes** or **no** with a **yes** weld being required for scoring to proceed. A **yes** weld is one judged to be good enough to hold up under normal use.

Time allowed for forging and fitting of the bar shoe is thirty-five (35) minutes, and a **Minimum Passing Score will be 70%**

Weld Yes No (Circle either Yes or No)

Proceed with scoring below only if weld is acceptable

Shoe Quality										
Level	10	9	8	**7**	6	5	4	3	2	1
Form	10	9	8	**7**	6	5	4	3	2	1
Finish	10	9	8	**7**	6	5	4	3	2	1
Bar	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Fullering										
Maintain Stock Size	10	9	8	**7**	6	5	4	3	2	1
Uniform 2/3's depth	10	9	8	**7**	6	5	4	3	2	1
Clean	10	9	8	**7**	6	5	4	3	2	1
Nail Hole										
Location	10	9	8	**7**	6	5	4	3	2	1
Depth	10	9	8	**7**	6	5	4	3	2	1
Shape	10	9	8	**7**	6	5	4	3	2	1
Shoe Fit										
Fit	20	18	16	**14**	12	10	8	6	4	2
Heel Expansion	10	9	8	**7**	6	5	4	3	2	1
Heel Length	10	9	8	**7**	6	5	4	3	2	1

PASSING SCORE 70% **TOTAL**

TOTAL POSSIBLE: 140 (98 POINTS MINIMUM TO PASS)

TWO SCORE TOTAL POINTS AVERAGE **TWO SCORE AVERAGE** **%**

Circle One PASS FAIL

SCORE TRANSFERRED TO PC FORM _____
INITIALS

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES

Education

Certification

Communication

Research

Innovation

For more information about the AFA,
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