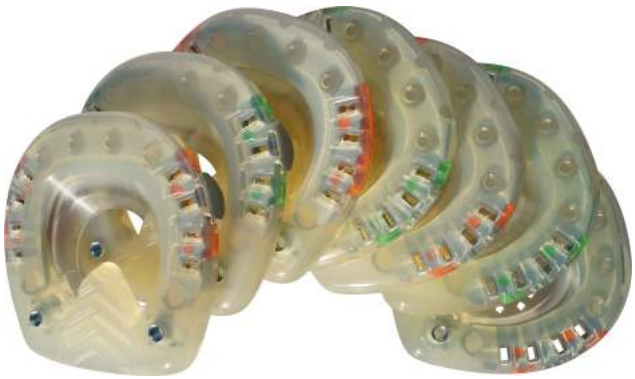
Catalog 2018

DUPLO

Dear Duplo Friends,

We are happy to present our new Duplo Catalog! As every year, you will find inside many details about the special features of our composite horseshoes as well as in-depth instructions for their correct application.

Last year, we have launched a completely new model line: Our STS horseshoes offer pushed-back quarter clips and improved breakover. A large number of our clients and their horses are already convinced by the "Straight Toe Shoes"!

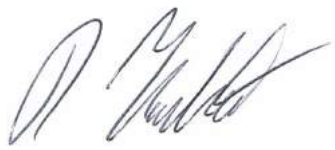


This year, we are going to revise the older Duplo models. Since our earliest days, we have learned a lot – thanks both to the permanent use of Duplo Horseshoes for our own horses and to the feedback of numerous horse owners and farriers. At the same time, our production techniques have considerably advanced and many ideas which would have been unimaginable ten years ago can now be implemented without any problems.

We continuously try to improve Duplo Horseshoes. It is therefore quite possible that there will be new developments in the coming months which are not yet reflected in this catalog. We are going to keep you updated on our website, in our newsletter and on our Facebook page. Take a look!

We hope you continue having fun and being successful with Duplo Composite Horseshoes!

Best wishes from the Bavarian Forest,



Hubert Frank and the Duplo Team

Advantages of the Duplo Composite Horseshoe

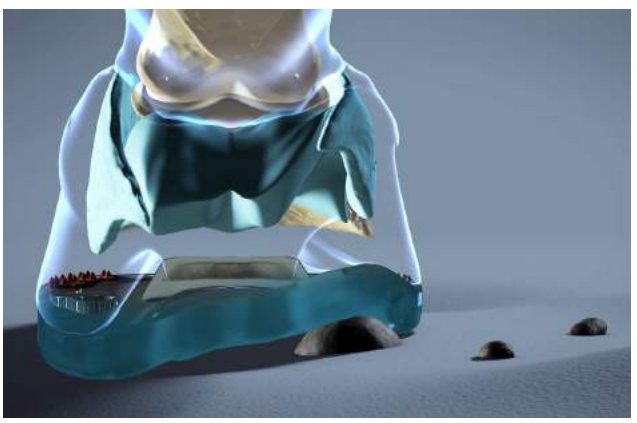
As a composite horseshoe, the Duplo Horseshoe combines two different materials – metal and synthetic – and their numerous advantages for the hoof. Look and see!

Solid Metal Inlay
Thanks to its solid metal inlay, the Duplo Composite Horseshoe is torsion-free and keeps its shape for a long time. This contributes to the long-life cycle of the horseshoe and prevents the sole from getting pressurized.

Reliable Nail Holes
The nail holes are integrated into the metal inlay. This makes sure that the nail head cannot slip through the nail hole. The nails sit tightly even during irregular movements. As the oblong nail holes are positioned at 90 degrees to the white line, it is possible to place each nail individually and to adjust the horseshoe to irregular hoof shapes.

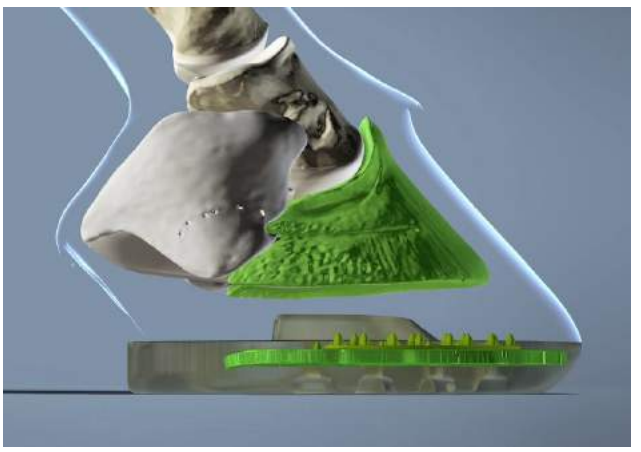
Shock-Absorbing Synthetic Cover
Thanks to the relatively soft synthetic cover, shock and high-frequency vibrations caused by the hoof's impact on the ground are considerably reduced; the horse benefits from a very comfortable walking experience.

Stimulation of the Hoof Mechanism
The flexibility of the synthetic material encourages the natural horizontal and vertical flexibility of the hoof capsule.



Easy Breakover
You can easily rasp or bend a toe rocker which improves breakover.

Minimized Risk of Injury
The softer material and the round edges reduce the risk of injuries in herds and in case of gaiting problems (e. g. forging, brushing).



Protection of the Ground
When you use a normal Duplo Horseshoe without spikes and studs, there is no contact between metal and ground because the nail heads are embedded in the synthetic material. Sensitive ground (e. g. historical clinker pavement) won't be damaged by Duplo Horseshoes.

Near-Natural Anti-Slide Protection
The anti-slide behavior of the Duplo Horseshoe is comparable to a barefoot horse's and therefore more natural than the elongated sliding phase of a metal horseshoe.

Ideal Horseshoe in Winter
The molded elastic rim prevents snow and debris from accumulating. If necessary, you can use the Duplo Horseshoe with studs or spikes.

Treatment of Hoof Problems
Many hoof diseases (e. g. thrush) can be rapidly and permanently cured with the Duplo Horseshoe.

Orthopedic and Therapeutic Options
The Duplo Horseshoe is ideal for difficult hooves. You can use it in case of various therapeutic indications.

Easy Application
Duplo Horseshoes are easy to apply. You can use standard tools and horseshoe-nails; there is no special training necessary.

Individual Modifications
You can precisely adjust the Duplo Horseshoe to the individual hoof shape with numerous modifications and therefore react accordingly to the needs of each horse.

Secure Fit
The knobs on the hoof side are pressed into the hoof wall and prevent the horseshoe from twisting out of position. In addition, some models are equipped with quarter clips which also ensure a secure fit.

Durability
The high wear resistance of the materials ensures low abrasion even during intensive use. In certain circumstances, it is even possible to use the same horseshoe more than once.

Wide Range of Sizes
Thanks to the wide range of sizes, Duplo Horseshoes are suitable even for very small and very large horses.

Realistic Price-Performance Ratio
Last but not least: Thanks to their realistic pricing, Duplo Horseshoes are an ideal alternative!

Standard and Extra

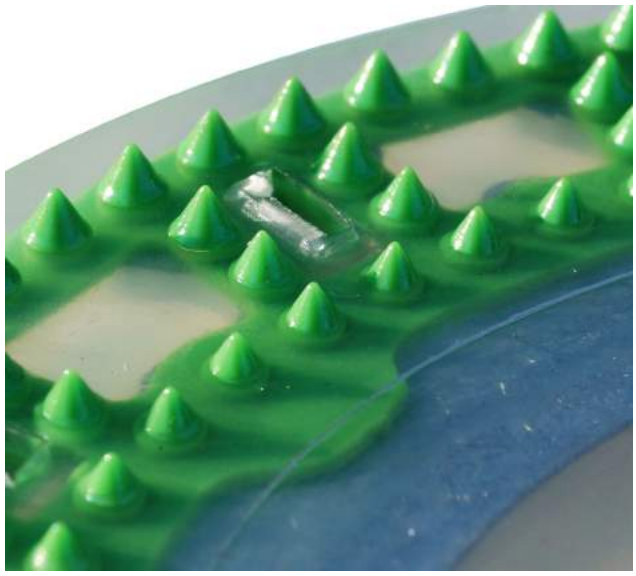
Basically, there are two lines of Duplo models which are quite distinct from each other even in their color.

The Standard models are made of relatively soft synthetic material. They are recognizable by their knob arrays in **orange color**.

The Extra models are made of a slightly harder synthetic material than the Standard models. They are recognizable by their knob arrays in **green color**.

The Knobs

Generally, all Duplo Horseshoes are equipped with two knob arrays. The knobs are impressed into the hoof wall and thus help the horseshoe keep its position on the hoof. Experience has shown that two knob arrays are sufficient even if there are no quarter clips – provided that the horseshoe has been carefully applied.



Some models from our early days still have four knob arrays instead of two. If you use these (or any other) horseshoes and your horse has flat, sensitive hooves, please remove the inner knob arrays so they won't exert pressure on the sole!

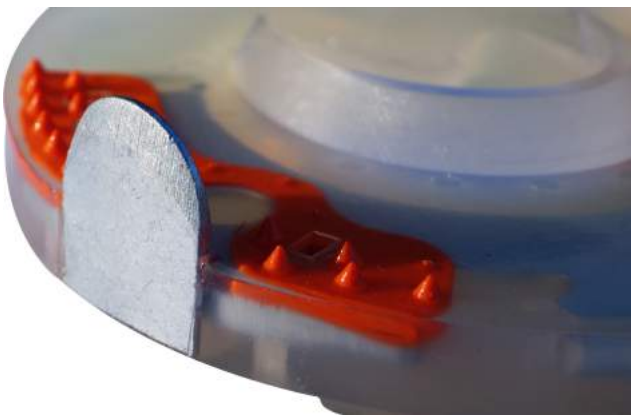
The Elastic Rim

Most of the Duplo models have a synthetic elastic rim which considerably reduces the accumulation of snow and debris. This is why the horseshoes with rim are often (but not only!) used in winter.

Until now, it was only possible to add a rim to the slightly softer Standard horseshoes. Thanks to new machines and better techniques, we are now able to attach a synthetic rim to the slightly harder material of the Extra models. In the medium term, all Duplo models without closed sole area will be equipped with an elastic rim.

Clipped Duplo Horseshoes

Most of the Duplo models have quarter clips – simply because they are well-proven. The clips facilitate the nailing process because the horseshoe is kept in position by the quarter clips even before all nails are placed. During the regular shoeing period, the quarter clips prevent the horseshoe from twisting or getting out of position.



For therapeutic applications, we have developed the Duplo Wedge which can be combined with every clipped Duplo Horseshoe. There is a wedge for every horseshoe size and shape. You can simply place the wedge on the horseshoe without any further effort – it will be kept in position thanks to the quarter clips.

Profiled Duplo Horseshoes

Every Duplo Horseshoe is slightly profiled on its lower surface, but some models have an increased profile which improves the anti-slide qualities of the Duplo. We recommend the increased profile on muddy or pebbly paths where additional grip is necessary.

Threaded Duplo Horseshoes

Thanks to their material and their profiled surface, Duplo Horseshoes are well protected against slipping. However, there are situations in which additional anti-slide protection with spikes (see p. 20) or studs is necessary.

That is why some Duplo models are equipped with two or four screw threads in which you can insert screw studs. Depending on the Duplo model used and the situation, there are some aspects to consider.

Small Studs
The thread inserts of the regular Duplo models are located in the heel area and fixated in the synthetic material. They are suitable for M8 studs of 4 mm and 6 mm. We do not recommend using larger studs because they can lever the thread inserts out of their position.

Each stud of 4 mm and 6 mm is equipped with a washer which spreads the punctual pressure of the stud on a larger surface. This is more comfortable for the horse. Furthermore, the washer improves the stability of the thread insert.

Careful: The studs with washer are not suitable for Duplo Horseshoes with ring-shaped metal inlay!

Large Studs
If you want to use larger studs, we recommend Duplo models with thread inserts that are firmly fixated in the metal inlay – currently, that is every horseshoe with ring-shaped metal inlay. Thanks to the additional stabilization, the thread inserts cannot be levered out of their position even during extreme strain.

The Duplo models with additionally fixated thread inserts are suitable for screw studs of 8 mm or 12 mm. When screwed in, the stud sinks into the thread for about 3 mm – that way, the first pitch of the screw thread won't be damaged even during abrasion and the thread will be easier to clean. The actual height of the stud is therefore 5 mm (in case of 8 mm studs) or 9 mm (in case of 12 mm studs). We do not recommend using larger studs because they strain the horseshoe and the horse's health too much.

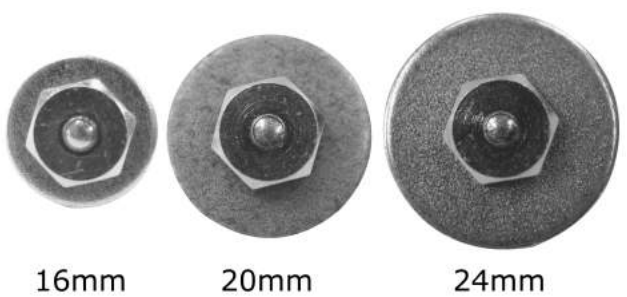
Careful: The large studs are only suitable for horseshoes with thread inserts that are firmly fixated in the metal inlay!

FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions about the Application of Studs

We have gathered the answers to the most frequent questions about the use of studs. If you have further questions, don't hesitate to ask the Duplo Team!

Why are there studs with different sizes of washers?

The washer spreads the punctual pressure of the stud on a larger surface. We have experimented with differently sized washers and found out that our clients prefer studs with washers of 16 mm. In the course of time, we are going to reduce our range of studs of 4 mm and 6 mm to the versions with washers of 16 mm.



Is it possible to use Duplo models with ring-shaped metal inlay with smaller studs?

The thread inserts that are firmly fixated in the metal inlay have a prefabricated indentation which makes the stud sink into the thread for about 3 mm when screwed in. The actual height of the stud is therefore reduced by about 3 mm and the application of smaller studs is barely relevant in everyday life. This is why we don't offer small studs for these thread inserts.

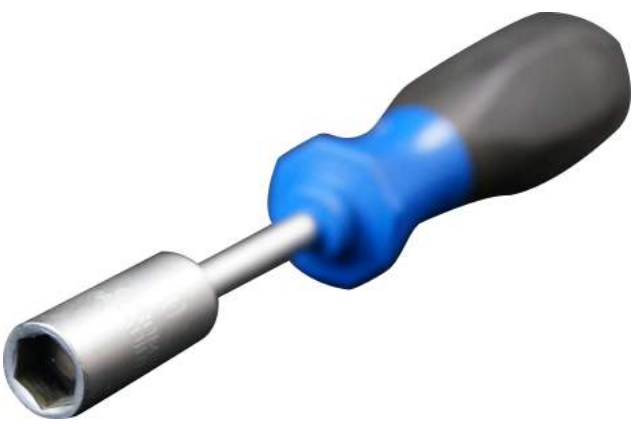
Which Duplo models have M8 threads and which have M10 threads?

Most threads have the size M8. However, for reasons of stability, we use larger M10 threads for those Duplo models which are suitable for larger studs – except for the smaller sized horseshoes which aren't large enough for M10 thread inserts. Please take a look at the thread size so you can order the correct stud size!

Which tool is suitable for which stud?

Depending on size and shape of the stud, you need different tools:

- 4 mm studs (M8): hex wrench or 10 mm open-end wrench
- 6 mm studs (M8): square wrench or 10 mm open-end wrench
- 8 mm studs (M8): hex wrench or 10 mm open-end wrench
- 8 mm studs (M10): 12 mm open-end wrench
- 12 mm studs (M8): hex wrench or 10 mm open-end wrench
- 12 mm studs (M10): 12 mm open-end wrench



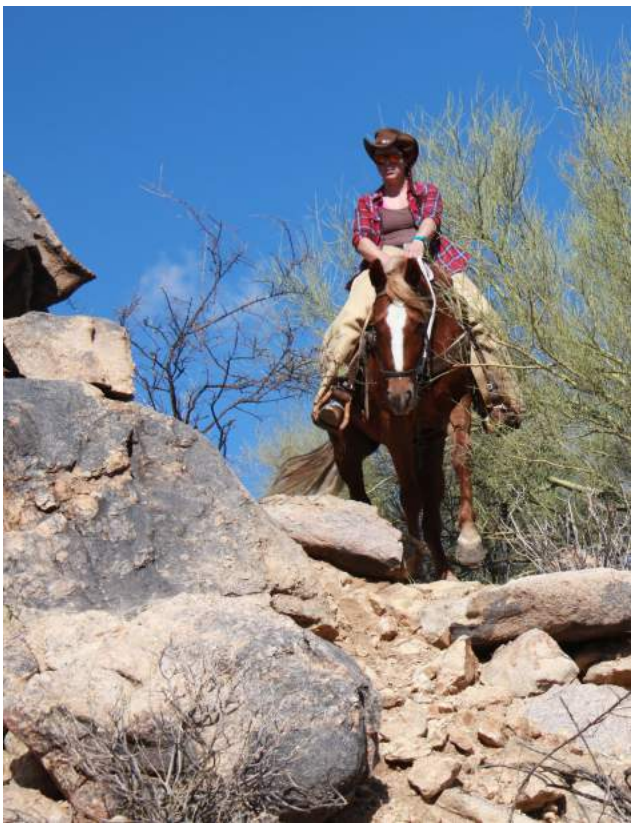
Closed Duplo Horseshoes

The sole area of some Duplo Horseshoes is closed either with a slim synthetic pad or with an integrated synthetic grid, depending on the model. We often use these horseshoes for flat, sensitive soles or in case of very stony trails – and of course, there are numerous therapeutic applications possible.

During the current revision of the older Duplo models, we are going to replace the completely closed soles with grid soles. In the medium term, there will only be horseshoes with the new and improved grid soles.

Duplo Horseshoes with Reinforced Toe Area

The **Duplo Arizona** has been developed in close collaboration with the Miller Ranch in Arizona. During spectacular trails through Monument Valley and Grand Canyon, the horseshoes have to meet high demands – the trails often are rocky and narrow, the horses frequently have to climb over rocks. The horseshoes have to be extremely skid-proof and resistant and they have to support the maximum performances of the horses in the best way possible.



Being used for climbing the rocks of Arizona, the toe area of the horseshoe is challenged a lot and therefore bordered with steel. The steel border increases the resistance of the horseshoe's toe area and protects the synthetic material from being torn out. The rest of the horseshoe is covered with synthetic material just like any other Duplo Horseshoe; the Duplo Arizona is therefore still very shock-absorbing.

The additional steel border shifts the weight of the horseshoe towards the toe. This weight transfer may influence the horse's mechanics – in a good or a bad way. In some cases, the Duplo Arizona can be used as a therapeutic horseshoe – comparable to a regular toe weight horseshoe.

Duplo Horseshoes with Ring-Shaped Metal Inlay

Some Duplo models have a ring-shaped metal inlay – quite similar to a traditional heart bar metal horseshoe. They are ideal for horses that need an extremely solid and, at the same time, very shock-absorbing horseshoe.

Compared to Duplo models with a regular metal inlay, a horseshoe with ring-shaped metal inlay considerably reduces the flexibility of the hoof capsule in its heel area. This may be a desirable feature in case of certain therapeutic indications. At the same time, the horseshoe is less heavy than a traditional heart bar shoe of the same size. The locomotor system is therefore treated with care.

Some Duplo models with ring-shaped metal inlay are available with screw threads which are firmly connected with the metal inlay. It is therefore possible to use larger studs (compared to regular threaded Duplo models) without risking that the threads get levered out of their correct and solid position during extreme strain (for example when show jumping).

Duplo Straight Toe Shoes

Compared to a regular round Duplo Horseshoe, the toe area of the **Duplo Straight Toe Shoe (STS)** is slightly straightened. The oblong nail holes are positioned at 90 degrees to the white line so you can place each nail individually and react to irregular hoof shapes. If you choose a model with quarter clips, those are positioned further backwards.

The particular shape and the prefabricated toe rocker facilitate breakover. If you prepare the hoof correctly, the Duplo Straight Toe Shoe is also ideal for difficult hoof shapes and angles.

Open-Toed Duplo Horseshoes

The different models of open-toed Duplo Horseshoes have been developed in collaboration with Wolfgang Busch for the treatment of chronic laminitis. However, the daily routine has shown that the open-toed models are not only ideal for laminitis hooves but also in case of some other therapeutic indications.

Anatomical Shape
The open toe area of the horseshoe promotes an early breakover and minimizes the leverage forces in the toe area of the hoof. Besides, if necessary, you can shorten the toe a lot more than you could with a regular horseshoe.

The front bar is shaped exactly like the dorsal rim of P3 – contrary to a straight bar, there won't be any painful punctual pressure exerted on the rim of P3 if you place the horseshoe correctly on the hoof.

The metal inlay is very solid and torsion-resistant. The branches of the horseshoe stay in their position and support the hoof exactly where it's necessary.

Integrated Synthetic Grid Sole
Every open-toed Duplo model is equipped with an integrated synthetic grid sole so you can use liquid or kneadable padding material. Spare padding material can exit through the holes of the grid and won't exert uncomfortable pressure on the sensitive sole.

Weight Reduction
The weight of an open-toed Duplo Horseshoe (without quarter clips and screw threads) is below that of a regular reversed horseshoe without bar and with a light inserted synthetic sole. Both the musculoskeletal system and the hoof wall benefit from the reduced weight.

Anti-Slide Protection
The bottom surface of every open-toed Duplo model is slightly profiled in order to ensure its anti-slide protection. However, the application of studs may be necessary in certain situations. That's why we have developed a model with two solid thread inserts in the heel area.

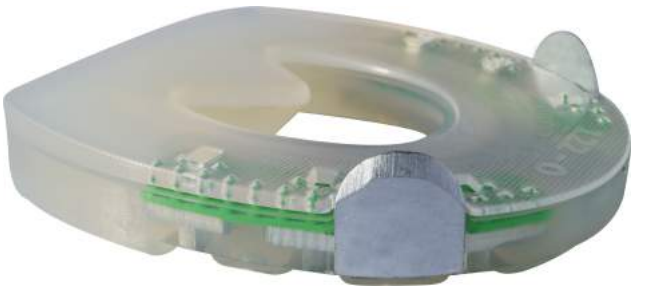
Duplo Horseshoes with Wedges

Every Duplo Horseshoe with quarter clips can be combined with a fitting wedge inlay. A horseshoe with wedge is used whenever a change of the hoof angle, combined with perfect shock absorbance, is called for. The Duplo Wedge is the ideal supplement to the Duplo Horseshoe for certain therapeutic indications.

Ring Shape
In contrast to most of the usual synthetic wedges, the Duplo Wedge is molded in a ring shape. Therefore, the wedge is not only placed below the heels but covers the complete surface of the horseshoe.

The ring shape has two advantages: Firstly, the wedge is more solid and doesn't slip out of its position because it is fixated on a larger surface. Secondly, the hoof can be trimmed in exactly the same way as for a Duplo Horseshoe without wedge. The weight-bearing surface can be rasped absolutely plain and doesn't have to be treated differently around the heels than around the toe.

Anatomical Sole Relief
The shape of the wedge is based on the anatomy of the hoof. A molded bevel provides for perfect fit around the sensitive sole and avoids needless pressure. It is not necessary to adjust the wedge before its use.



Possibility of Combination
A wedge causes the hoof angle to change by 2.5 degrees. If necessary, it is possible to weld two wedges together and then insert them into the horseshoe; the hoof angle will then change by 5.0 degrees.

Easy Application
The Duplo Wedge is only combinable with a clipped Duplo Horseshoe!

Applying the Duplo Wedge is quite straightforward. There is a wedge for each horseshoe size and each horseshoe shape so you don't have to adjust the wedge to the horseshoe before using it. Just insert the wedge into the horseshoe and you're done!

It is possible but not necessary to weld the wedge to the horseshoe. The wedge is precisely adjusted to the knob profile of the Duplo Horseshoe; the knobs fixate the wedge in its position. The quarter clips increase the stability of the combination even more.

Glue-On Duplo Horseshoes

The Duplo is designed as a nailed horseshoe. However, if the condition of a hoof doesn't permit nailing, you can apply our special glue-on tabs to partly or completely use the Duplo Horseshoe as a glue-on horseshoe.

Different Degrees of Hardness
Just like our horseshoes, the Duplo Glue-On Tabs are available in two degrees of hardness. The Standard version is made of a relatively soft synthetic material, the Extra version of a material a little bit harder. It depends completely on your preferences which degree of hardness you use for which horseshoe – you can equip a Standard horseshoe with soft glue-on tabs as well as with harder glue-on tabs and vice versa for the Extra line of horseshoes. Because of all glue-on tabs being made from the same synthetic material as the Duplo Horseshoes and only differing in their degree of hardness, you can achieve an ideal connection between horseshoe and glue-on tabs – regardless of which combination of horseshoe and glue-on tabs you finally use.

Rough Inner Surface
The inner surface of the glue-on tabs which lies against the hoof is roughened. Because of that detail, you can achieve a better connection between tab, glue and hoof wall; the glued-on horseshoe is therefore more stable and more durable.

Anatomical Tab Length
The length of each tab is adjusted to the anatomy of the hoof. The tabs are longest around the toe; they evenly get shorter towards the heels. It is not necessary to adjust the length of the tabs before using them.

Anatomical Tab Angles
The angle of each tab is adjusted to the shape of the hoof. Around the toe, the tabs have relatively flat angles; the angles get evenly steeper towards the heels. Thanks to that detail, the hoof slips into the glue-on tabs like in a fitting shoe. If the tabs were positioned at right angles to the horseshoe, they would have to be kept in the correct angle by the glue - but as the tabs would try to return to their initial position, there would be a lot more stress on the glued connection. This additional stress is removed when using the Duplo Glue-On Tabs because the tabs can stay in their initial position.

Vacuum Effect
Each tab of the Duplo Glue-On Tabs is curved and works similarly to a vacuum cup. Thanks to the curve, the complete tab is evenly in touch with the hoof and you can achieve a glued connection over the complete surface of the tab. The borders of the tab also are in touch with the hoof wall – it is not necessary to seal the borders with glue.

Easy Application
Heat the external border of the horseshoe and the bottom part of the glue-on tabs with a standard hot air gun until the synthetic material starts to gleam and becomes soft. Then you place the first inch of the glue-on tabs around the horseshoe and shortly press the two parts together. That way, you weld the tabs to the shoe inch for inch. Thanks to the glue-on tabs being made from the same material as the horseshoe, there will be an ideal connection between them.

Place the prepared horseshoe on a recently trimmed hoof and glue tab after tab to the hoof wall with a suitable instant adhesive. Finished!

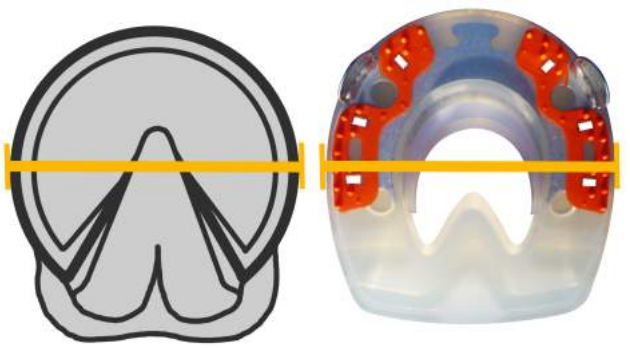
Duplo Horseshoes without Metal Inlay

The metal inlay of the Duplo Composite Horseshoe is extremely important to make sure that the horseshoe is solid and to prevent it from deforming and pressurizing the hoof sole.

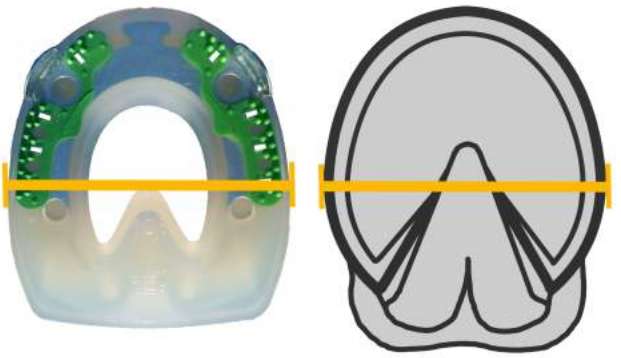
The Duplo model without metal inlay can therefore not be used as a nailed or glued horseshoe because it is not solid enough. We exclusively use this model as abrasion protection for horseboots.

Sizes and Shapes of the Duplo Composite Horseshoe

The size of a Duplo Horseshoe is always measured at its widest point. The smallest Duplo is 98 mm wide, the largest one is 170 mm. The interval between sizes is 4 mm – you will therefore find models of 110 mm and 114 mm but nothing in-between. If your horse needs an in-between size, you can easily adjust a slightly too large horseshoe with an angle grinder.



Duplo Horseshoes are not only available in numerous sizes but also in two different shapes. The round horseshoes generally fit the front hooves, the oval models are rather made for hind hooves. As always: The exception prooves the rule.



To determine the correct Duplo size for your horse, it should be unshoed. The hoof should be correctly trimmed so that a new horseshoe could be applied. If you measure an untrimmed or shoed hoof, you might not get the desirable exact results.

First, use a measuring tape or a ruler to measure the widest point of the hoof's lower surface which usually is to be found at a short distance behind the frog apex.

Then, take a look at the sole as a whole and decide whether it is rather round or oval.

With these two results – the hoof width in millimeters and the hoof shape – you can choose a Duplo model in your horse's size.

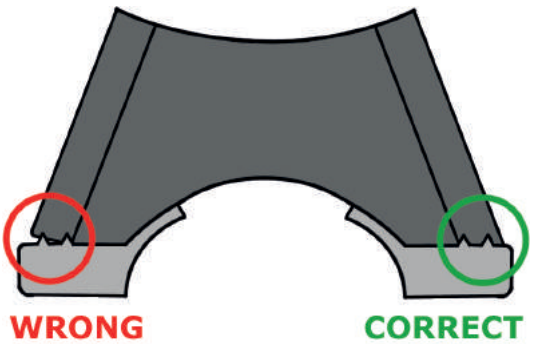
Shoeing Instruction for Duplo Horseshoes

The correct application of the Duplo Composite Horseshoe is easy if you have the necessary knowledge of and competence in professionally nailing and clinching horseshoes and if you consider certain aspects while doing this. Please also memorize our Safety Information (see p. 27)!

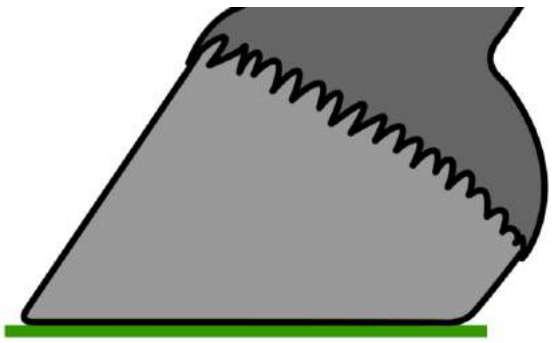
Preparation of the Hoof

The professional preparation of the hoof before shoeing with Duplo is quite similar to its preparation before shoeing with any other horseshoe.

Please make sure that the hoof wall is some millimeters longer than the sole after rasping! If you shorten the hoof wall too much, the horseshoe might put undesirable pressure on the sole.

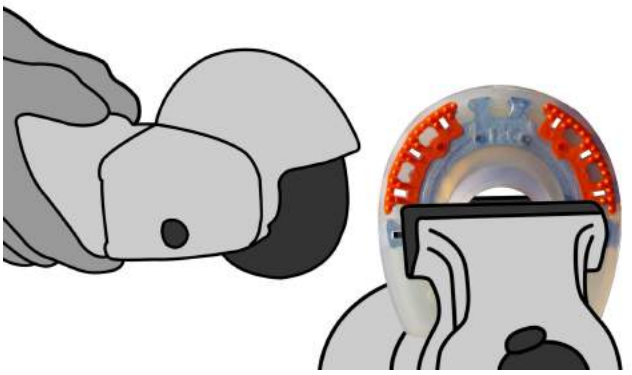


Please also make sure that the hoof wall is absolutely plane after rasping! If the wall is uneven, the hard knobs of the Duplo Horseshoe won't be able to impress into the wall and the horseshoe won't be protected against torsions.



Preparation of the Horseshoe

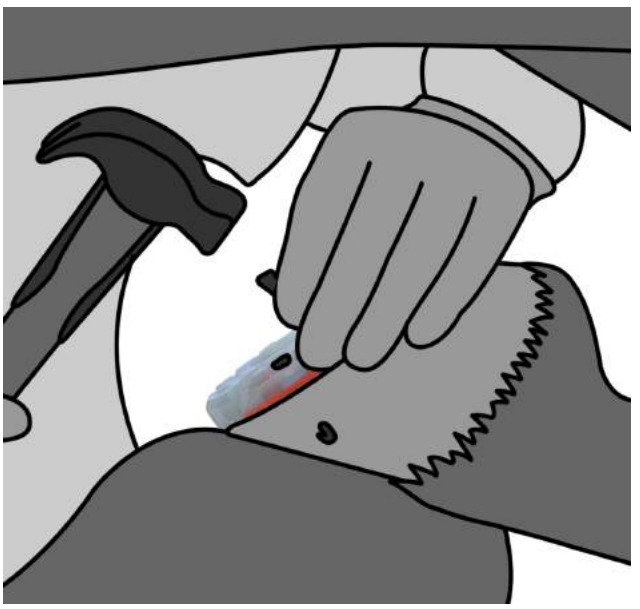
From the numerous Duplo models, choose a horseshoe according to hoof size, hoof shape and intended use. Use an angle grinder or belt grinder to adjust it precisely to the hoof shape. Please remove all knobs from the sole area to avoid putting punctual pressure on the sole.



If necessary, you can grind a toe rocker to the horseshoe to facilitate breakover. A bevel at the posterior end of the shoe will reduce the risk of forging.

Nailing

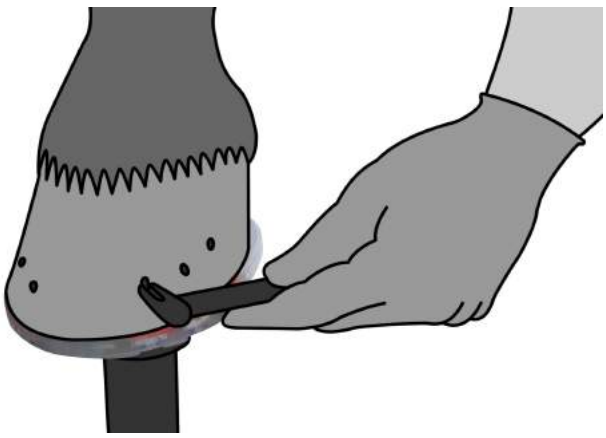
You can use the same nails for the Duplo Horseshoe as for a conventional horseshoe if the nail head can't slip through the nail hole. We use, for example, the nail types E, ESL, M and VF.



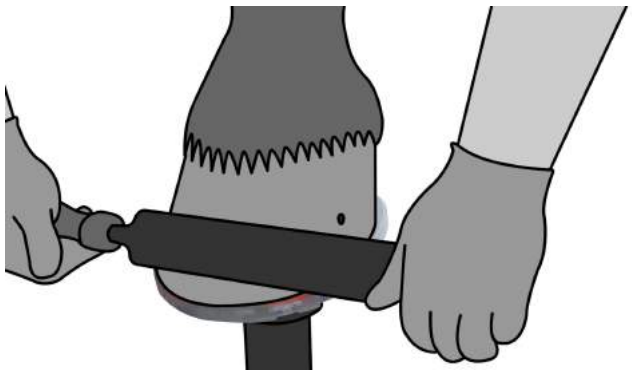
Place the horseshoe on the hoof and fix its position with two or three nails. Don't drive the nails home just yet so you can still adjust the shoe in a small range. When everything fits, drive the two or three nails home and add the remaining ones. According to our experience, six nails are thoroughly sufficient for keeping the horseshoe in its position.

Clinching

The correct clinching of the nails is extremely important in order to protect the horseshoe against displacements or torsions. Both the method with hammer and nail cutters and the method with clinchers will lead to the correct result if they are carefully applied.

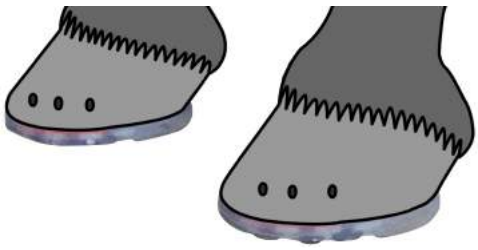


Finally, thoroughly smooth the clinched nails and the hoof wall in order to reduce the risk of injuries by protruding nail ends. Finished!



Removing the Horseshoe

In order to remove a Duplo Horseshoe, we recommend removing each nail separately before taking the horseshoe off. This is quite easy with a nail puller or narrow-ground pincers.



The Application of Spikes

Thanks to their material and their profiled surface, Duplo Horseshoes are well protected against slipping. However, there are situations in which additional anti-slide protection with spikes or studs (see p. 08) is necessary.

The small spikes are used as a preliminary stage to studs – just like tungsten carbide pins in traditional horseshoes. You can easily screw them into the synthetic material of the Duplo Horseshoe with a suitable adapter.

Spikes in the Heel Area
We generally use two spikes per horseshoe and place them below the heels. In many cases, this simple procedure provides for sufficient anti-slide protection.

Careful: For production-related reasons, there are two holes of about 8 mm in the heel area. These holes are not suitable for spikes!

In order to use spikes in the heel area, we recommend the following equipment:

- a waterproof felt pen,
- a cordless screwdriver with speed regulation,
- a wood drill bit of 5 mm with centering point,
- a spike adapter for the screwdriver
- and, of course, a sufficient number of spikes (size L).

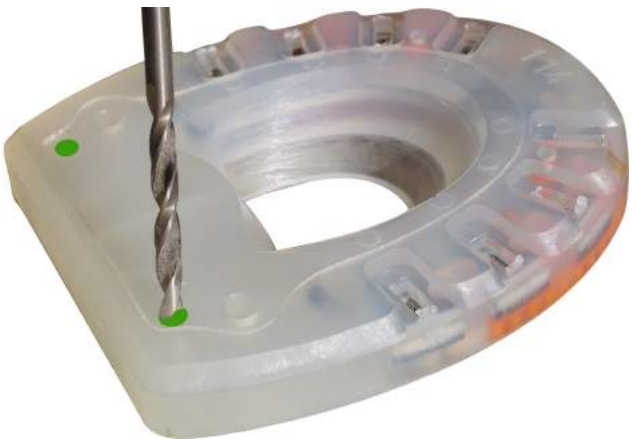
First, use your pen to highlight the desired position of the spikes on the bottom side of the horseshoe. There are three aspects to consider:

1.) The production-related holes are not suitable for spikes.

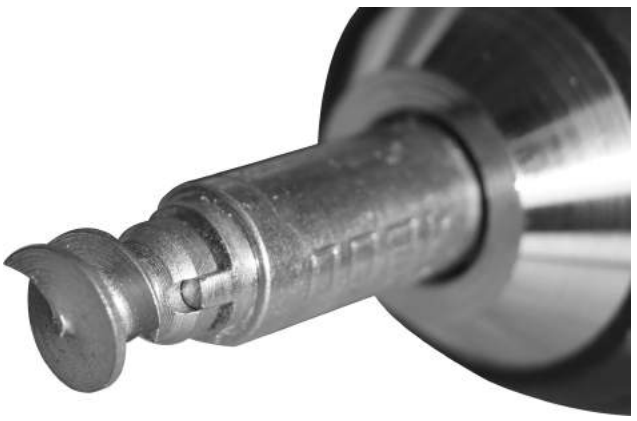
2.) The spikes should be placed below the hoof wall to avoid pressuring the sole or the frog.

3.) At the same time, make sure to keep enough space between the spikes and the rim of the horseshoe in order to prevent the spikes from pulling out.

Use the drill bit to drill a flat dimple (about 1 or 2 mm) into the synthetic material at both marked positions. When placed in this dimple, the spike won't slide away when screwed in. Do not pre-drill or drill deeper – otherwise, the spike won't be firmly fixated in the horseshoe!

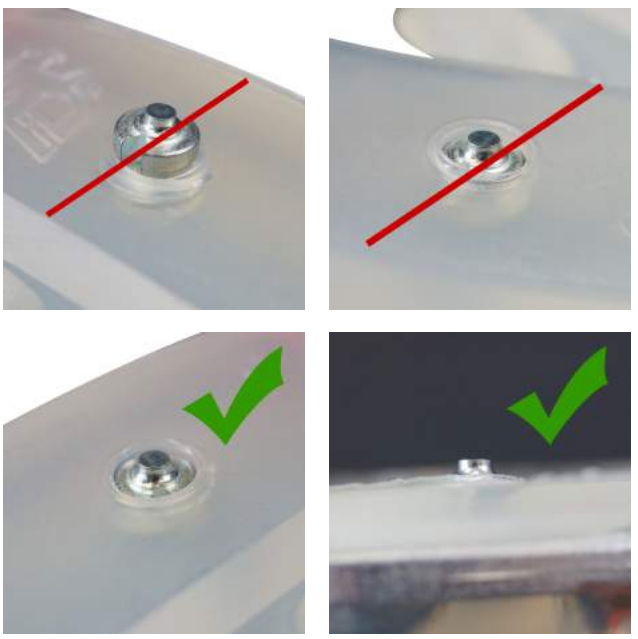


Then, you place the spike on the adapter in such a way that the two pegs of the adapter completely fill out the two grooves of the spike.



After that, you place the tip of the spike in the center of the dimple and then slowly and vertically screw it into the synthetic material with moderate pressure and at slow speed. You can stabilize the adapter with the other hand.

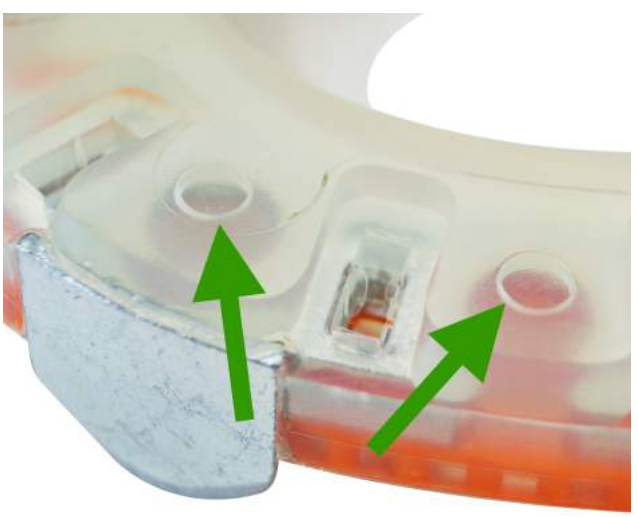
The spike fits perfectly when only the small hard metal head overtops the surface of the horseshoe. If the spike isn't screwed in enough, it will easily get lost and also represents a risk of injury for both man and horse. If the spike is screwed in too far, it can't reach its full potential. In addition, its tip might break through the hoof side of the horseshoe. In order to ensure durability, the spike must be neither overwound nor turned back.



Spikes in the Toe and Quarter Area

Some new Duplo models are produced with prefabricated dimples in the toe and quarter area which facilitate placing the spikes. Depending on the size and the model of the horseshoe, you can use up to eight spikes per horseshoe. You only have to decide how many spikes you would like to use – there are no further preparations necessary.

Careful: The prefabricated dimples are only placed around the toe and quarters. You still have to apply the traditional method (see above) for spikes in the heel area.



Currently, all Duplo models with quarter clips (except for the STS models) between 102 mm and 170 mm (round shape) and between 110 mm and 166 mm (oval shape) are produced with dimples.

The application itself is really simple. You only need the following equipment:

- a cordless screwdriver with speed regulation,
- a spike adapter for the screwdriver
- and, again, a sufficient number of spikes (size L).

Put the spike on the adapter and place the tip of the spike in the center of the dimple. Slowly and vertically screw it into the synthetic material with moderate pressure and at slow speed. We recommend stabilizing the adapter with the other hand.

Spikes in STS Models

Careful: In case of our STS models, regular spikes (size L) are not suitable for the holes in the toe area of the metal inlay. You can apply regular spikes in the heel area; there are smaller spikes (size M) and a fitting adapter available for the application of spikes in the toe area.

Duplo Certification

Every product is just as good as its user! For functional horseshoeing, you need not only a horseshoe of high quality but also a well-trained farrier. We want to offer to horse owners the option of getting a certified Duplo user to shoe their horse and to ensure the quality of the result. For you as a farrier, the certification is optional, of course!

The four-day intensive training course is organized by the NBvH (see below) and covers the following topics:

- safety at work
- advantages and disadvantages of Duplo Composite Horseshoes
- information about product lines
- modifications
- glue-on techniques
- application of open-toed Duplo Horseshoes
- hands-on application
- checking and refining your own work

The NBvH

The NBvH (Niedersächsische Bildungsstätte von Hufbeschlaglehrschmieden = Lower Saxon Educational Establishment of Master Farriers) offers professional training for barehoof trimming, nailed and glued-on hoof protection and hoof boots without being restricted to a certain product.

www.NBvH.net

FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions about Duplo

Are Duplo Horseshoes suitable for every horse?
With their metal inlay and their synthetic cover, Duplo Composite Horseshoes combine the advantages of the two materials for the hoof; they are therefore appropriate for a large number of horses. There are, however, some restrictions regarding the use of the horse – some disciplines still are better off with traditional horseshoes – and its size: Unfortunately, there aren't Duplos available (yet) for very small or extremely large hooves.

Are Duplo Composite Horseshoes suitable for gaited horses?
Basically yes – every horse is happy about a comfortable horseshoe! Having said that, there are two additional aspects to be considered.

To begin with, there is the gait itself: If you have previously used front and hind horseshoes with different weights for tölt, running walk, foxtrott etc., there might be some initial problems with the correct rhythm. However, this is a matter of habit – a horse with a natural gaiting ability and a gymnastic training background will soon find the desired rhythm and perhaps walk or foxtrott even more smoothly than before.

The second aspect only concerns competition riders: If you want to present your gaited horse in competitions, don't forget to check the rulebooks – not every association allows composite horseshoes (yet)!

Are Duplo Composite Horseshoes sold by the piece or in pairs?
We have decided to sell our horseshoes by the piece because some horses have different hoof sizes or different hoof shapes. That way, you can individually choose fitting horseshoes.

How does the transition from metal to composite horseshoes work?
A short period of familiarization is normal when your horse is shoed with Duplo Composite Horseshoes for the first time. A horse whose musculosceletal system and mechanics have adapted to the sliding behavior of traditional horseshoes will be shortly confused because of the reduced sliding range of the Duplos. Other problems relating to the transition aren't known – and most horses walk on clouds after this initial period.

Is it possible to remove the bar?
Generally, it is possible to remove the bar without affecting the stability of the horseshoe. However, we recommend not to do so. When the frog is supported by the bar, not only the walls, but the complete hoof is evenly charged. Thanks to the flexibility of the elastic rim, less mud and pebbles get stuck in a Duplo Horseshoe than in a traditional horseshoe. Picking out the hooves gets a lot easier!

How is it possible to prevent the horseshoes from twisting out of their position?
It is very rare that a Duplo Horseshoe gets out of place on a front hoof. If it does, it is often due to irregular hoof growth or extremely long shoeing periods.

Displacements at the hind hooves are more common. They are often due to irregular movements of the horse. In this case, we recommend our clipped Duplo models which partially absorb the rotation.

It is also important to trim the hoof correctly before shoeing it and to clinch the horseshoes thoroughly; the quality of these two work steps contributes enormously to the durability of the horseshoe.

When do you recommend using a regular round horseshoe, when an STS model?
Both the regular round horseshoes and the STS horseshoes are rather suitable for front hooves than for hind hooves because of their shape. The decision which model to use for your horse completely depends on the horse's needs and on the intended use: If an early breakover is important or if you'd like to slightly set the horseshoe back, choose an STS model. If other particularities – for example the reinforced toe of the Duplo Arizona – are more important, use a regular round horseshoe. It's your choice!

How durable are Duplo Composite Horseshoes?
If the horseshoe is correctly and carefully applied to the hoof, its durability is the same as for a regular horseshoe. If the Duplo isn't too worn down after a regular shoeing period and the metal inlay still is in good shape, you can use the same horseshoe more than once.

Is it possible to use Duplo Horseshoes in case of thrush?
Some farriers raise concerns over shoeing thrush horses with Duplo because Duplos are closed over the frog and don't let fresh air circulate in the problematic area. However, it is possible to modify the horseshoe in such a way that there is a free space at the central groove and the posterior part of the collateral grooves so you can medicate them correctly. According to our experience, hardly any horse develops thrush while being shoed with Duplo and those who are already affected usually get better. If your horse suffers from thrush all the same, this is often due to unhygienic boarding conditions – but the exception proves the rule.

Is it possible to use Duplo Horseshoes in case of spavin / suspensory injuries / arthrosis etc.? Which Duplo model is the most helpful?
We can't give a global answer to such questions because there are too many aspects to consider. It is only possible for your on-site farrier to reasonably evaluate the situation. But we still try to help even from a distance – simply arrange a telephonic consultation appointment with Master Farrier Stephan Becker s.becker@duplo-frank.de.

The Production of Duplo Composite Horseshoes

Have you ever wondered where and how Duplo Composite Horseshoes are produced? Every production step – from the idea to the tool design and construction to the shipping – is located in our family business in the Bavarian Forest. Duplo Composite Horseshoes are a genuine German quality product!

And that's how a new Duplo model is made: In the beginning, there is an idea. It usually comes from Hubert Frank (master metalworker, welding expert, government-approved master farrier) who has developed the Duplo Horseshoes from the very first day. But the experiences and requests of long-standing Duplo users are also included in the planning of a new Duplo model – and, of course, there is an intensive test phase for every new horseshoe before its actual production.

At first, the new Duplo model is designed on the computer. Afterwards, the molds are created – for the metal inlay and for the synthetic cover as well as for knobs, quarter clips and screw threads. Besides, there is a round and an oval version in about 20 sizes for each model.

When everything is prepared, the new horseshoes are fabricated in the production area of the company. Multiple departments work together in this area; the employees grind, weld, cast and sort the horseshoes.

Then, the horseshoes are stored in the warehouse. Before they can be used, they have to harden for some weeks to improve their abrasion resistance.

Afterwards, the finished horseshoes can be delivered to our clients. And finally, they arrive at their destination: On the hooves of happy and healthy horses!

Important Safety Information for Duplo Horseshoes

Our products, the Duplo Composite Horseshoes, are manufactured using safe chemical substances and synthetic materials.

Nevertheless, it is important that you read this safety information and follow all instructions before working with or using Duplo products.

To prevent injuries to man or horse:

- Only use Duplo products if you have the necessary knowledge regarding their correct application! Check our Shoeing Instruction (see p. 18).
- Only use the proper tools and equipment to shoe Duplo products.
- Do not place a Duplo Horseshoe between the hoof and a conventional horseshoe.
- Avoid burns!
- The otherwise safe chemical substances and synthetic materials used in Duplo products may cause a health hazard if they are heavily burned or their abrasive dust is inhaled.
- Do not inhale abrasive dust from Duplo products.
- Check the proper and secure fit of Duplo products once a day to prevent losing a horseshoe during its regular life span.
- To prevent injuries, check for sharp edges and open rivets once a week.

Duplo products are made using relatively soft material with chamfered edges. This makes them safer in horse herds than traditional horseshoes. There are less injuries but injuries can never be totally eliminated.

Duplo products have undergone extensive testing. They have been proven suitable for many different horses and disciplines. Some horses, however, don't like Duplo products because of their particular body structure or individual movements.

When riding on slippery ground (e. g. recently mowed grass, wet leaves or similar) the Duplo products have about the same friction as bare hoofs or worn conventional metal horse shoes without studs.

In order to prevent injuries, it is necessary to mount additional anti-skid equipment (e. g. studs or spikes) and to reduce the speed of riding if Duplo products are used for riding on slippery ground.

Contact Information

On our website, there is not only a large online shop but also plenty of detailed information, instructions and videos about Duplo Composite Horseshoes. Also take a look at our Facebook page to learn the latest news. We are looking forward to your visit!

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www.duplo-frank.de www.facebook.com/duplo.frank

In some countries, we have permanent associates who are responsible for the complete distribution of Duplo products. Our clients benefit from this settlement by shorter delivery times and lower shipping charges. If your country is mentioned below, please contact the national agent there for your Duplo orders. Our colleagues are looking forward to you!

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