

The Natural Angle

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Sheared Heels or Heel Shear?

By Dave Farley, CF

"In my business I try to deal with the heel shear before it becomes a sheared heel."

- Dave Farley

In this article, I will show you how I show a horse with a mild heel shear. In future articles, we will deal with the two worse stages that I call sheared heels. I will not attempt to diagnose the cause of this condition, which is explained in several great textbooks. Instead, I will show the horse just as I do in my everyday practice.

Most textbooks describe this condition as one heel being higher than the other, when viewed from the back of the foot. If you are a farrier, you see this condition often and each of us have our own way of dealing with sheared heels. In my business, I try to deal with the heel shear before it becomes a sheared heel. I personally believe that there are three stages of this condition. I approach each stage of this foot flaw a little differently.

This case is what I call a mild heel shear. Notice that the inside heel is higher than the outside. I consider this mild because the frog is still attached. If you hold the foot with both hands the heels will not separate and move independently. Also, notice that the bulb has little deformity when the foot is bearing weight and viewed from the rear. Most feet with this



1. Starting trim of left hind - notice inside heel pushed up even from this angle.

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mild condition will not show any lameness or gait fault. I believe that foot should be as close as possible to the corner of the limb above it. Notice that the wall of the high heel is straighter and does not have a normal angle. I take this into consideration when I fit the shoe.

I trim to the highest, widest part of the frog. I use a #2 Kerckhaert Grand Prix shoe. This shoe has a wide outside branch that helps horses with stiff and/or rotating hocks that need more lateral support. Using this shoe, I hammer and/or grind the inside branch. This takes away more medial ground surface of the shoe allowing the affected heel to sink more than the outside or lateral heel.

Notice the inside (medial) fit of the shoe. If you have a horse with this mild condition, and your approach is similar, this heel shear probably will never become a sheared heel. This horse is sound, happy and a ten mover. ■



2, 3. Cleaning up only what's necessary to protect the integrity of the hoof.



4, 5. Inside heel of the shoe forged to allow the hoof to sink.



6, 7. You can see the inside heel after hot fit in these views.



8. The shoe ground, drilled and tapped.



9. Fit wide for lateral support.

10. 11. Note the support on the medial heel also.



Baldor Grinder Capacitors – Low or High Voltage?

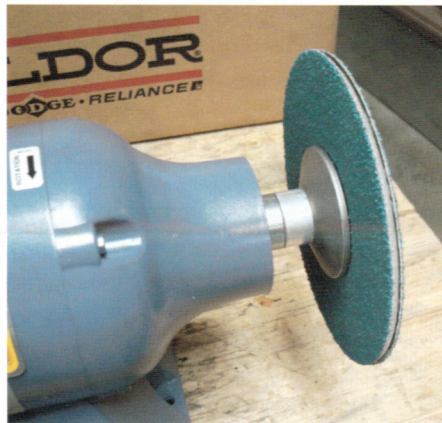
Baldor has long been recognized as the premier American brand of grinders and buffers. In order to service the farrier market, they have partnered with FPD to produce units that are easily adapted for use with various attachments such as Expander wheels, Multi-Tools, and various other useful options.

From time to time we get comments from the field about heat buildup in the motor housing. We asked Baldor to provide some technical information as to why that might happen.

Baldor has built units with larger capacitors for the farrier industry so that they will work better under the electrical service conditions we frequently see in barn areas. They do the same thing with some of their Farm Duty motors. Baldor grinders are normally rated for 115/230V, by National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) guidelines. That means the voltage can fluctuate +/- 10%. So a 230V line can drop to 207V and a 115V can drop to 104V. With anything lower than those voltages, the motors have a difficult time running. Putting larger capacitors in gives the grinder greater torque and starting capacity on low line voltages. With the normal capacitor, the grinders often take longer to start and generate less torque while running - you may even have to spin the wheel to get it started. So, in essence, the larger capacitors on the 1/2 and 3/4 hp

grinders perform much better in low or fluctuating voltage situations.

As with many things, there are two sides to the story. When you have larger capacitors that boost the voltage and you run a grinder on a stiff line with a solid 125V or 240V (high side instead of low) then the motor will



The smaller capacitor for the BG12 (1/2 hp) is part number OC3006F12 (6MFD/370V); capacitor for BG34 (3/4 hp) is part number OC3016F12 (16MFD/370V)

run a little hotter because the high line voltage now generates much greater torque and the grinder pulls higher amps; in motor terms the motor begins to saturate. As long as the grinders are not left running unloaded for extended periods this is not a problem. If running for extended periods is desired, a lower capacitor value can be purchased to replace the one shipped with the grinder. This applies to the BG12 and BG34 models built for FPD.

How hot is hot? What is hot for some products is not hot for another. All grinders have an insulation class that can withstand up to 130 degrees Celsius (266 degrees F) internal temperatures before the windings begin to break down. This means outer skin temperatures can reach as high as 200 degrees F at maximum temperature. You can boil water at 212 Degrees F so the term running hot should be qualified. Of course running at those temperatures all the time is not good. It can degrade the life of the insulation and can shorten the life of the grinder if you run at those temperatures for extended periods of time, day in and day out.

If you feel you are running in solid voltage situations and your grinder feels too hot, then you can contact your dealer to order a replacement Baldor capacitor that is available from FPD. ■

Save the Date!

WCB Contest & Clinic
Nov. 13-15, 2008
Equine Affaire, Springfield, MA
(641-660-3888)

AAEP Farrier Program
Dec. 10, 2008
San Diego, CA
(859-233-0147)

Hoofcare Summit
Feb. 3-6, 2009
Cincinnati, OH (800-645-8455)

AFA Convention
Feb. 25-28, 2009
Chattanooga, TN (859-233-7411)

Warmer Idea with a Simple Stovepipe Heater

From Sammy Williams; Mexico, MO

This is how I warm Vettec products in the winter. I also use this heater to warm a pine tar can, or my gloves, as it will not overheat.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- 1 6" stovepipe, 14" tall
- 1 9"x9" piece of 1/2" plywood (can vary)
- 1 3-1/2 by 3-1/2 electrical box and porcelain fixture for light bulb
- 1 8 foot extension cord
- 1 100 watt bulb
- 3 L-brackets
- 1 Paint can bail (handle)
- 1 Baling type wire for lattice
- 5 Screws
- 6 Pop Rivets

STEPS TO BUILD

- Attach electrical box to center of plywood.
- Attach porcelain with cord attached, using the L brackets and pop rivets, to the bottom of the pipe, then attach all to the plywood.
- Drill a series of holes in the stovepipe just above the light bulb for later work with the wire.
- Work your wire through the holes to provide lattice to hold materials.
- Drill two holes at the top of the stovepipe for the handle.

TO USE

- Plug in and drop Vettec in.
- Trim, reset or shoe. The Vettec should be warm enough to set up quickly in that length of time.

Warning: If you have any concerns about your wiring have an electrician check before use. Do not set in wet areas or in areas where fire may be a concern.

SAMMY WILLIAMS IS A LONG-TIME FARRIER AND IS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE BEST IN THE STATE OF MISSOURI.

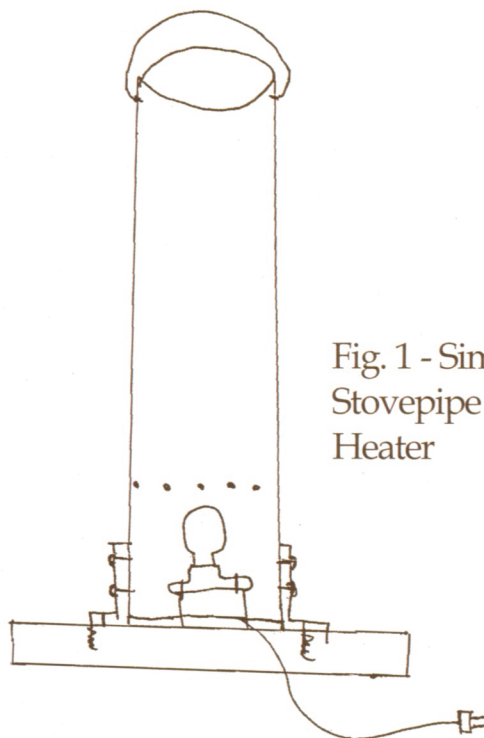


Fig. 1 - Simple Stovepipe Heater

Nails not shown at actual size.

Easy Drive™

STRAIGHT THROUGH



INTRODUCING



Contact a farrierproducts™ dealer near you for more information.

4 1/2 Race

- Clean Features
- Consistent Quality
- Slim design

6 City

- Excellent strength for larger shoes
- Great Value

NEW PRODUCTS FOR 2008

FOOTPRO LINE



Nail Puller

- Designed with rivet positioned to maximize leverage.
- Fully polished tool steel.



Clincher

- The angled head makes clinching a more comfortable process.
- Fully polished, high-grade tool steel.

Aprons

- Light and comfortable, yet durable with reinforcement where needed.
- Knife pockets that are placed on the outside of a wider leg pattern.
- 26" or 31" lengths available.



KERCKHAERT HORSESHOES

New Standard Rim Design

- Heel to heel crease.
- Bevels inside and outside.
- Clean nail holes for 5 City or 5 Slim.



Triumph Lite Steel

- Lightweight version of the popular Triumph Steel line.
- Designed for performance horses like Rope horses, Barrel horses among others.
- Precisely Punched for 5 Slim or 5 Race nails.
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Carbide Pins

- Simple, quick application. Durable, yet non-aggressive.
- Less expensive than studs.
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- Excellent driving.
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- Slim design.
- High tensile strength from rolled process.

Vector 6 City

- Excellent strength for larger shoes.
- Drive where you direct them. Consistent quality.
- Good value pricing.



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Mon - Thurs: 8:00 am - 7:30 pm
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Sat: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

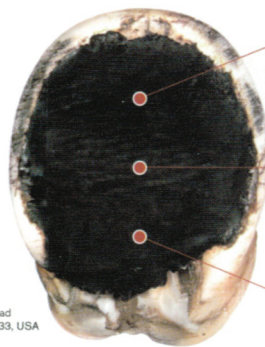
We ship daily via UPS.
Come by and see us or give us a call at (800) 420-5997

D&L Farm and Home is located 50 miles north of Dallas in the Heart of Texas horse country. We offer a full line of farrier products from the best manufacturers in the industry matched with unparalleled service.

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Use Sole-Guard to increase your business by offering your trim clients an effective option for protection and support



1 Dispense Sole-Guard onto a clean, dry sole



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