

How to care for your DP Wool Felt Pad

1 When to Wash your DP Wool Felt pad depends on the following factors:

- Time of year – Hot, Cold, Shedding of hair, etc.
- How long you ride
- How often you brush out hair and dirt from your pad
- The condition of your horse's hair coat
- If your horse is stalled or runs out side
- How often your horse is washed in order to keep dirt from its back



These factors will determine when the wool fibers in our wool felt pads will begin to get hard in the following pressure points: wither/shoulder areas, cinch area, loin area, and along the bottom edges of the pad where the sweat and dirt flows down. The best rule of thumb is to wash your pad when these areas begin to get hard and crusted over. When brushing off the dirt is simply not enough anymore, it's time to wash your pad. It doesn't matter if you have ridden it 50 hours or 150 hours; if the pad gets hard to the touch, wash your pad.

2 **Deep Cleaning Procedure:** Always wash from the center of your DP pad to the edges. Wash your pad at an angle. Never spray directly into the pad body. Soak with warm (86° F) water up to the salt line then apply soap like Woolite™. Let your pad soak 15-20 minutes then rinse the soap out of your pad. Make sure that you rinse the soap completely, because leaving any soap residue could irritate your horse's skin. Always rotate the pad during rinsing to ensure dirty, soapy water flows outward to the edges of the pad rather than soaking into it.

- Water: Use Luke warm water 30°C/ 86° F
- Do not use water hotter than this because it will damage the wool's natural elasticity.
- Soap: Only use soap like Woolite™ that is PH7 neutral, or an alkaline based shampoo. Do not use soap that is acidic based, because it will damage the wool's natural elasticity.

3



Recommended care for our DP 100% pure wool saddle pads:

Brush out hair and dirt from your pad weekly using a sponge or rubber curry comb. During shedding season, brush your pad after every ride. Follow up with a vacuum to remove excess grime and loose material. A brush or a simple slap with your hand can also be used to get rid of loose dirt and hair.

Air dry your 100% pure wool pad after every ride. Hang your pad in the correct position to dry and store – never lay it on its back.

Never store them with a saddle or other pad on top of it. Wool pads need air to dry and breathe.

Store your pad on a rail or similar structure in a well ventilated area, so your pad will be able to air dry completely. When the pressure point areas as mentioned under point 2 get hard, it is time to wash out the salt and dirt from your pad per the instructions above.

If you follow these simple maintenance procedures, you will get the performance from this material that you need to keep your horse's back comfortable, protected and cooled with the best material available on the market.