NOTE: These shim recommendations are meant for use with NHS saddles. When using other saddles, we would advise using shoulder shim or half shim only

SHIMMING
AT A GLANCE

NATURAL HORSEMAN SADDLES.com

SHIM CHECKLIST

- Is your saddle set in proper position behind back edge of your horse's shoulder blade?
- Can you reach under the front of your saddle (underneath the pad) easily even after cinching? It's important the answer is YES!
- Is your saddle balanced? Where you sit should be the lowest point of the seat: a bit more toward the rear.
- Experiment with alternate shim choices and see what feels best!
- Your horse's back will lift vertically and expand horizontally during motion. You want just enough "shim help" to facilitate that. Rule of thumb: less is best. 1 or 2 should do the trick.
- Want more confidence you're getting it right? We've got you covered!

  Take advantage of our FREE SADDLE FIT EVALUATION!

NEED MORE HELP? Contact us at saddles@naturalhorsemansaddles.com for a closer assessment of your individual issues or check the Website for lots of tips & videos under the SUPPORT section.

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UPHILL
Withers are higher than croup

LONG CENTER SHIM

OR

HALF SHOULDER SHIM

LEVEL
Withers are level with croup

SHOULDER SHIM

OR

LONG CENTER SHIM

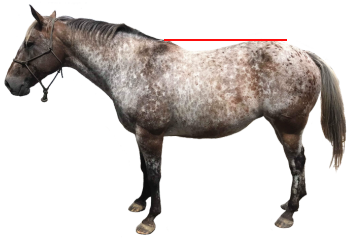
DOWNHILL
Withers are lower than croup

COMBO: LONG CENTER + HALF SHOULDER SHIM

OR

COMBO: SHOULDER SHIM + HALF SHOULDER SHIM

ROUND



LONG CENTER SHIM

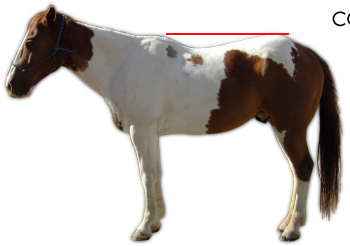
OR

HALF SHOULDER SHIM

HOLLOW
Sag in center back

COMBO: LONG CENTER SHIM + SHOULDER SHIM

HOLLOW BEHIND SHOULDER + DOWNHILL



COMBO: LONG CENTER SHIM + SHOULDER SHIM

UNDERMUSCLED TOPLINE

LONG CENTER SHIM