

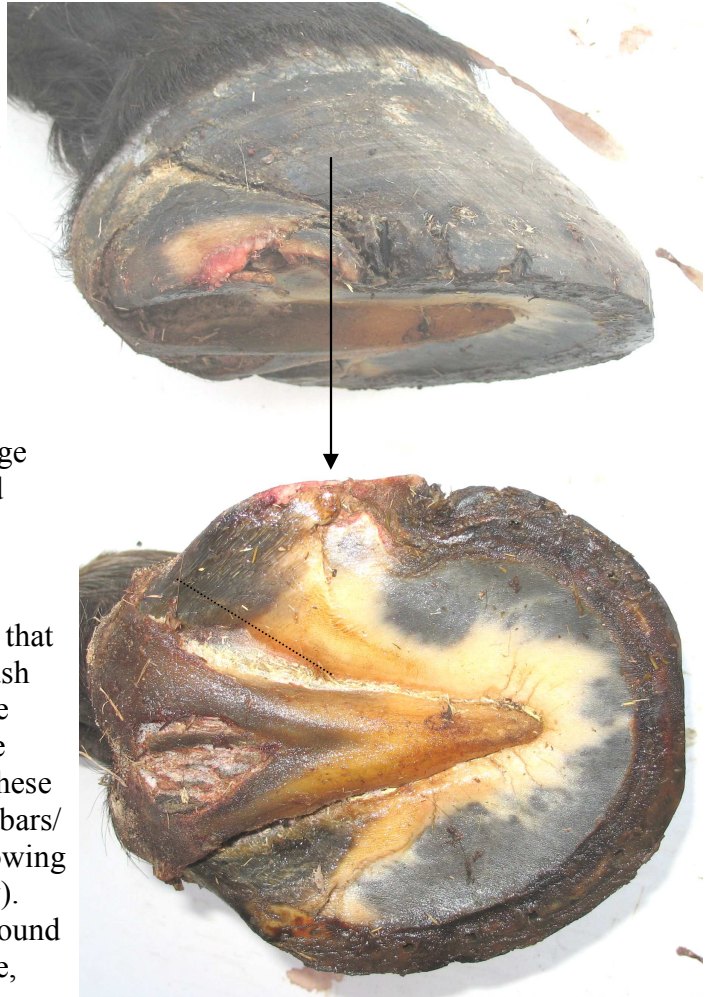
Quarter Cracks.

Quarter crack, like all cracks, comes from a tension in the hoof wall. Shoeing a hoof with a crack is like putting a band aid on a wound with a thorn in. If you don't change the shape off the hoof it will be just as imbalanced on the shoe as it was on the ground.

The crack in the pictures was caused by a flare that was caused by a tilted bar that was caused by neglect or lack of knowledge from the hoof care provider. If the bar had been trimmed the right way the hoof wall would never have cracked.

I can see two early scenarios:

1. There is a clearly visible thrush attach that you can see in the central sulcus. Thrush makes the frog sore and that makes the horse grow a higher heel to elevate the irritated nerves up from the ground. These high heels comes together with larger bars/ higher bar walls (i.e. the hoof wall growing from the bottom of the collateral grow). When this wall surface gets too big ground pressure might press the bar to the side, tilting it. A bar can be tilted in any direction from right to the side to straight forward and it always deforms the hoof in that direction (i.e. the bar is pointing at the flare).
2. The hoof care provider was confused to believe that the horse of some reason needed higher heels and there for saved the heels. Horses never need higher heels they only need sounder frogs. The high heels lead to high bars which the ground pressure tilted to the side creating the flare that created the crack.



The dotted line shows a more natural heel height and where the bar should end when rehabilitated.

To rehabilitate this we need to first get rid of the thrush otherwise will the horse never accept to lower the heels. When the thrush is gone the horse will start lowering the heel by exfoliating sole in the back part of the hoof. Just keep trimming the hoof walls down to the level of the hard sole which will reduce the height of the bar which will give the ground a smaller wall surface to put pressure to the side at. If you trim the bar the right way it will growth out in a much steeper angle from the bottom of the collateral grow. If you trim it any other way it will stay tilted. See www.SwedishHoofSchool.com (or even better, come to a seminar) for trimming instructions.

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