

The principles of fitting the *Solution* treeless saddles are very straightforward and enable the user to make adjustments quickly and easily without constantly resorting to professional assistance.

Initial fitting advice from a *Solution Saddles* trained fitting agent should enable any rider to use the saddle comfortably with confidence.

We recommend that when a horse is first introduced to *The Solution* saddle, you take things slowly, particularly with a horse that has had a fundamental or dramatic change in the way of going. The horse may be using different muscles in a different way and will require conditioning with short repetitions, building up, to avoid fatigue or strain.

If the saddle has been fitted to an unbacked horse or one that is off work and cannot be ridden for any reason, we recommend that a further fitting visit is booked when the ridden fit can be assessed.

*The Solution* system is designed to be used with balance pads where the horse's back shape or conformation requires.

The saddle does not permanently mould to the horse's back, but flexes into the back shape with the horse's movement.

Some well muscled horses or those with rounded backs may not require any balancers, but those with a prominent spine or muscle wastage generally will.

Horses change shape constantly throughout their lives due to maturity, muscle development, fitness levels and weight fluctuations. For example, in just a week, a fluctuation of 3-6 kilos in weight is perfectly normal.

The horse carries most of his stored fat deposits over his top line, so variations in weight can affect saddle fit.

With all horses, it is a good idea to regularly review and keep health records to enable you to monitor and manage their weight and fitness effectively.

As part of this good practice, their shape and saddle fit should be regularly reviewed.

These measurements are particularly interesting in rehabilitation cases, where some remarkable improvements are often seen.

The Users' Guide contains some simple methods of useful measurements that can be easily recorded.