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A M A H A S H E
S A D D L E P A D S





*My name is Eric Sands.
I am a racehorse trainer from
Cape Town, South Africa.*

For many years I was dissatisfied with the saddle pads used on my horses in racing. Sore withers and backs, skin disease and excessive sweating were just some of the problems. I decided to attempt to make more suitable pads to improve the lot of my horses.

I experimented with different materials, both synthetic and natural fibre, different thicknesses and different shapes. It was a matter of trial and error and much testing before arriving at today's product. It was never meant for resale but for my own use only. I used to cut them with a scissors and glue them by hand in my office.

In 2013 on a visit to Dubai, Mike De Kock (International and South African Champion Trainer)and myself were discussing girth tensions and I asked him

to try some of my pads. After using them he ordered more, as did Christophe Soumillon (French Champion Jockey) who rode with those first pads. I have these first 2 clients to thank for starting this business, Amahashe Saddle Pads. I sent a few to Douglas Whyte in Hong Kong and a few to Jeff Lloyd in Australia, both outstanding horsemen and jockeys, for their input. Both were positive and orders started to come in. Since then Amahashe Saddle Pads have won races in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, New Zealand, Australia, Mauritius,

Zimbabwe, Kenya, England, Ireland, France, Germany and many other countries. All this by word of mouth with neither a website nor brochure.

Today I manufacture saddle pads for other equestrian disciplines such as polo, endurance riding and show jumping.

Amahashe Saddle Pads are a range of lightweight saddle pads. The combination of the contour/profile fit and the stretch material used, make them unique for use on the equine athlete.

They are made from high density close cell foam which reduces impact and pressure points from the saddle. They cannot correct an ill-fitting saddle but will spread the same pressure over a larger area thus creating some alleviation.

They form a shock absorber between saddle and horse.

They have been tested for comparisons against numerous other products.

They have been tested using thermography images to illustrate pressure areas, return to normal blood flow and skin temperatures. Further temperature testing was done using temperature strips on the neck, under the saddle and on the quarters of horses.

Whilst skin temperatures in all 3 areas were close after a hard workout, some products tested showed vast temperature spikes almost immediately under the saddle. The holes in Amahashe Saddle Pads allow heat and sweat to escape.

Further testing was done on the longevity and strength of Amahashe Saddle Pads in formulating care instructions.

They are long lasting and will give better usage.

They are tear resistant. Binding was tested on the pads but thermography images often showed chaffing. They are resistant to most dilute alkalis and acids.

They are anti-fungal and antibacterial. Testing was done on different densities of the material now used.



Saddle fitters pad depicting weathered pressure and collapse saddle panel on the left hand side.



The benefits of using Amahashe Saddle Pads

Wherever possible Amahashe Saddle Pads are shaped to cover a reduced skin area but allow sufficient coverage to avoid saddle overlapping and buckle points. In relationship to body mass, a horse's skin area is a third that of humans. Therefore horses are prone to sweat more over less skin area. The more heat generated through exercise, the more blood is sent to the skin to cool the horse. This results in a reduction of essential blood flow to feed the muscles with Haemoglobin and Oxygen. This can lead to premature muscle fatigue.

Amahashe Saddle Pads do not stop blood flow to the skin but do cover less skin area to allow for better natural evaporation. Amahashe Saddle Pads are bad heat conductors.

They will only rise to the skin temperature on the touching surface. They do not have a shock effect of hot or cold when saddling up.

They are soft yet high density providing maximum compression and deflection properties. This reduces impact and pressure points. Although there is a wide range of horse conformations and saddle shapes the pads will aid in almost all cases. It is not feasible to make a pad to fit every saddle available.

A most beneficial aspect is the contour created by their shape and stretch, allowing a perfect fit to the horse's back and wither. They are anti-slip to both horse and saddle therefore girth tension can be eased.

Take an Amahashe Saddle Pad and place it on your forearm. Apply a little pressure rubbing it back and forth. You will feel it

moves with the skin. Because they move with the skin, they allow less muscle interference. This also negates the "dead weight" theory often associated with weight or lead bag usage in racing.

Amahashe Saddle Pads are lightweight. In some disciplines like endurance riding heavier riders benefit by not being too much over the required weight. Jockeys -sitting in the steam box.

They are relatively thin for the protection offered, giving the rider closer contact with the horse. N.B. Thicker padding can cause more pommel and panel pressure on the sides of the wither. Avoid "sandwiching" the wither.

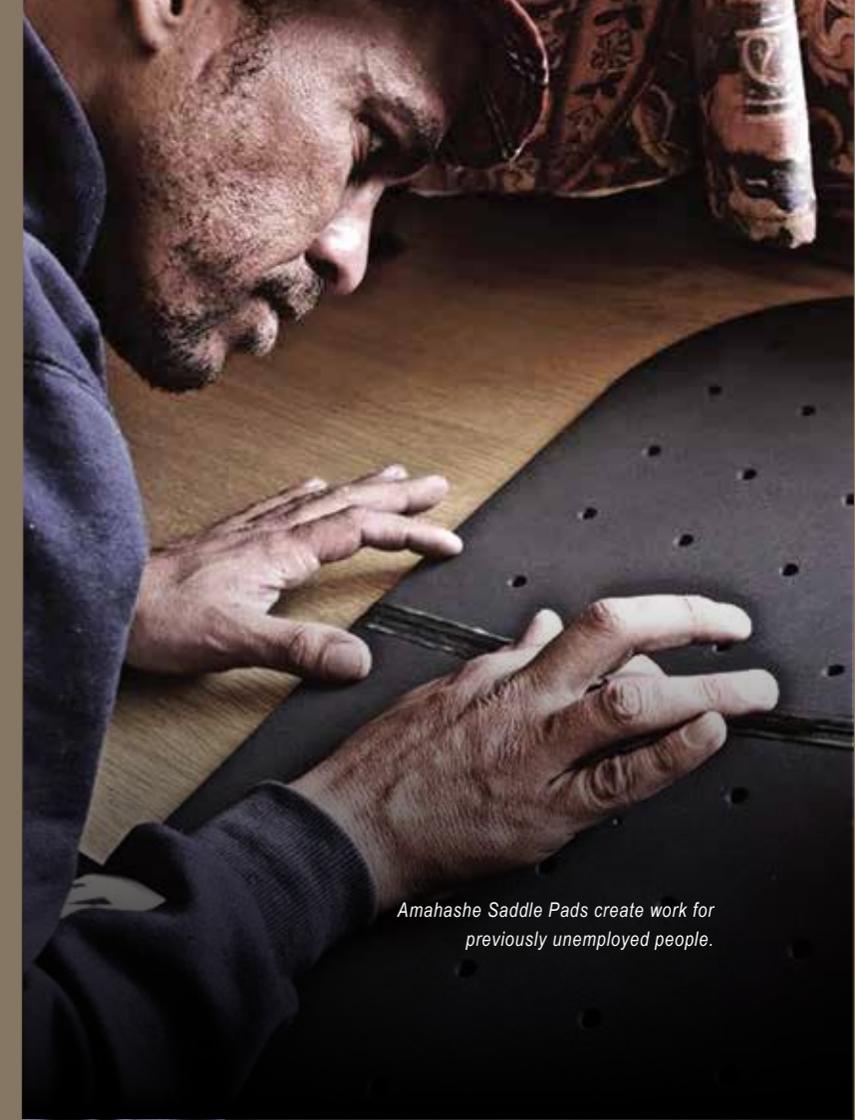
Amahashe Saddle Pads are non-absorbent therefore will not gain weight during competition. They can be hosed or washed between horses and just dab dried before re-use.

They are anti-slip and no traction is lost if wet from sweat or water.

They give better muscle recovery and less muscle problems. The return to normal blood flow and temperature is much improved.

Amahashe Saddle Pads are pliant allowing them to fit almost any horse. They have a memory so will return to shape if not bent excessively.

Difficult horses can be saddled up a lot quicker by placing the pad on a pole or floor, adding other equipment like a saddle cloth and saddle, then placing the whole bundle at once on the horse and girthing up.



Amahashe Saddle Pads create work for previously unemployed people.

Comparisons to other existing products

There are multiple choices of saddle pads, patches, numnahs, saddle cloths and packing available to the horseman and horsewomen. All have their own advantages and disadvantages.

They range from natural fibres to synthetic fibres to space age material. From thickness to thinness, from softness to hardness, from fashionable to practical etc.

Many have common similarities to Amahashe Saddle Pads. Some are made from similar materials, some are moulded or shaped and some allow “breathing”.

None have all the benefits, nor the specific fit of Amahashe Saddle Pads. Comparative testing has been carried out on other products specifically for muscle, temperature and circulation recovery. Overall results prove our product superior.

We encourage comparison to other products and accept there will be cases where an alternative pad will be better suited, but we welcome any challenges as an all round saddle pad. We avoid disparaging and highlighting disadvantages other saddle pads but

rather seek to promote the advantages of Amahashe Saddle Pads for the ultimate welfare of the horse.

Although horsemen will have preferences, based on experience or what is available to them, no other saddle pad offers all the benefits of Amahashe Saddle Pads.

Fitting an Amahashe Saddle Pad

The saddle pad should be placed forward of the wither and slid back into a comfortable position covering the wither.

Always move the pad in the direction of the hair, that is from front to back.

Place the saddle a little forward and holding the saddle pad, slide the saddle back to where it best fits the horse. Take care that the saddle is neither too far forward nor back. Ensure the spinal cover strip is central to the spine.

Saddles should not overlap the saddle pad. Saddles should protrude at least

20mm around the saddle pad. More pad should be visible in the pommel area compared to the cantle area.



Conditions of sale and deliveries

For all new clients, orders to be paid for before dispatch. Postage and shipping costs will be the responsibility of the client. Insurance for lost orders will be borne by Amahashe Saddle Pads.

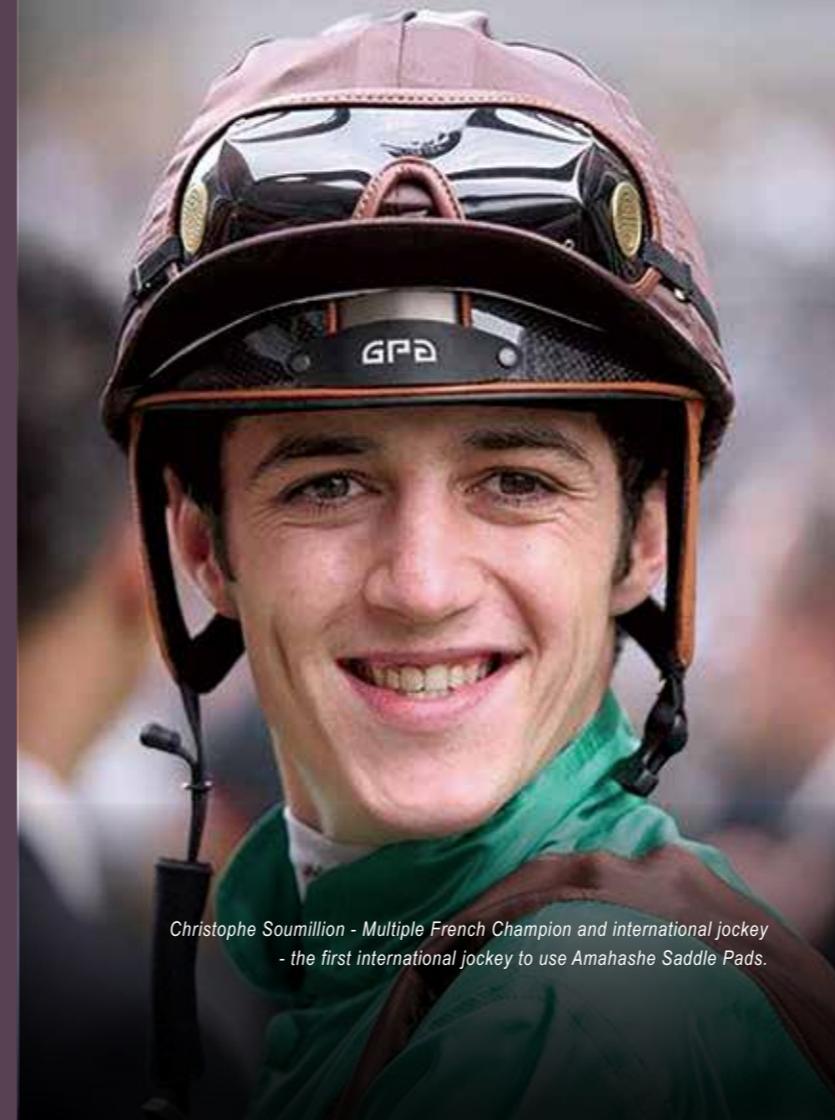
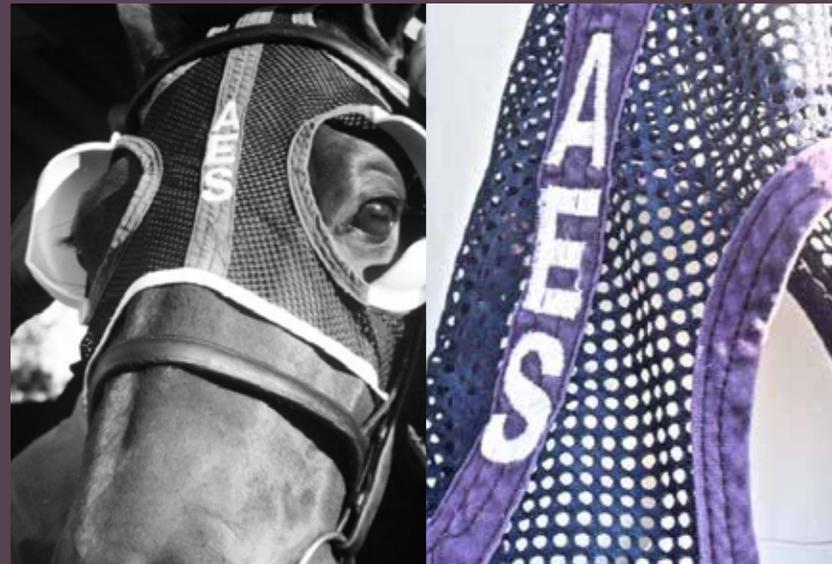
A 50% deposit is required for custom made saddle pads and the balance before dispatch. Associated costs will be as above.

Terms can be arranged for retailers and wholesalers. Payment due 30 days from invoice. Interest will be charged on all overdue accounts.

Quantity discounts are available for larger orders.

Stock items will be dispatched within 5 working days, subject to stock availability.

There is no set delivery for custom made saddle pads.



*Christophe Soumillon - Multiple French Champion and international jockey
- the first international jockey to use Amahashe Saddle Pads.*

Care instructions and storage

Amahashe Saddle Pads should be hand washed with warm soapy water using a soft brush, sponge or cloth. Rinse well and set out on a flat surface to dry.

Do not dry or store in direct sunlight or near a heat source. Store preferably on a flat surface or on top of the saddle in shade.

Do not machine wash.

Do not bend or fold unnecessarily.

Where time is limited, such as between events or races, rinse the saddle pad off with clean water and dab dry with a towel.

When to replace your Amahashe Saddle Pad

All products have a lifespan and longevity depends largely on care and usage. Amahashe Saddle Pads have proved extremely resilient and long lasting.

The closed cells will however, with time and use, collapse and become less effective. Aggravated pressure points from ill fitting saddles will cause wear and may also reduce the longevity.

A caring horseman will recognise when a replacement is necessary.



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Return policy on incorrectly ordered or delivered goods.

In the event of a client ordering an incorrect Amahashe Saddle Pad, an exchange will be made providing that the following conditions are adhered to:

1. The pad is unused.
 2. The pad is received in the same condition that it was dispatched in.
 3. The intention to return is made in writing within 5 working days of delivery.
 4. The return is made within 30 days of delivery.
 5. All shipping or postage costs, in both directions, to be borne by the client.
 6. Returns will only be made to the invoiced client.
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7. Saddle pads lost in transit will not be replaced or refunded unless proven fault of postal services or couriers.

In the event of a client receiving an incorrect Amahashe Saddle Pad, the above conditions will apply with the exception that all shipping or postage costs will be borne by Amahashe Saddle Pads.

Returns policy on alleged defective goods

Amahashe Saddle Pads carry a proud tradition of quality and workmanship.

Every pad is individually checked before dispatch to ensure this standard.

Subsequently our client's satisfaction is of utmost importance and defective goods

are considered with the same importance.

Materials and glue are not manufactured

by us and carry their own manufacturers

warranties.

On return of allegedly defective goods,

Amahashe Saddle Pad's Eric Sands, will

assess the goods to determine whether a

refund, replacement or repair will apply.

In the event where goods are decided to

be non-defective, the client will be notified and the goods returned to them.

All shipping or postage costs will be borne by the client. Eric Sands's decision will be final and binding.

Goods will not be deemed to be defective

if it is determined that the care

instructions were not adhered to. In

addition fair wear and tear will be assessed

in relationship to the age of the said

goods. Wilful damage or abnormal use do

not qualify goods to be defective.

The same applies for goods that are

repaired or altered in any manner.

NB. To date the biggest reason for returns have been saddle pads that have been left in a car in direct sunlight.

In such cases an "oven" has been created and pads have either warped or formed a crust. These are not deemed to be defective. Saddle pads washed in a washing machine are likewise not deemed to be defective.



Saddle shape pads



Full shape pads

Racing Saddle Pads

Available sizes:

Dock L 395mm (15.5") x B 460mm (18")

Small L 460mm (18") x B 580mm (22.75")

Medium L 530mm (20.75") x B 700mm (27.5")

Large L 600mm (23.5") x B 800mm (31.5")



Full shape pad for extended flap saddles
L 600mm (23.5") x 650mm (32.5")



Saddle shape pad for extended flap saddles
L 600mm (23.5") x 650mm (32.5")



Variations of the Dock sizes - 7mm or 10mm
Note: Blue pad is ultra lightweight (approx 50gms).
Only available in dock saddle shape.