



How to remove a shoe

Clean the hoof out first.

Bring the foot forward on your hoof stand or knee (knee is not recommended). Use the fine side of the rasp to cut the clinches with the hoof in the trimming position. Either use crease nail pullers to pull the nails individually, or using shoe pullers - not your nippers -, insert the jaws at the heel of one branch and give a quick, sharp tug in the direction of the center of the toe.

Repeat the procedure on the other branch.

Move the shoe pullers further up the branch and repeat until the shoe is removed. Always pull towards the center of the toe.

Note: Try to remove at least some of the nails individually before pulling the shoe whenever there are indications that the wall is of poor quality (broken out, cracked). The corners of cheap small nippers or pliers from the hardware store can work for this if you don't have crease nail pullers.

or...

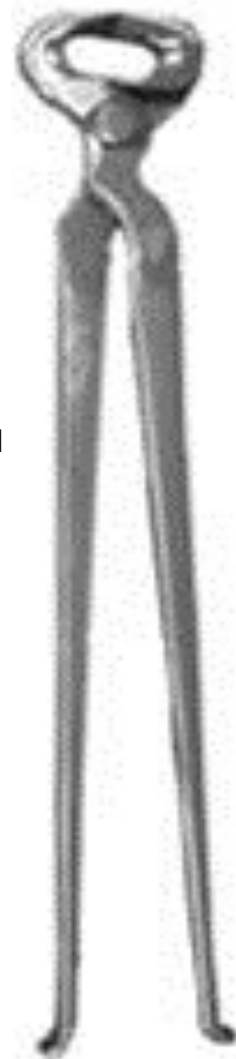
After the initial pull on each branch, tap the shoe back down against the hoof. This should leave the nail heads up out of their seat and you can then use the shoe pullers to remove them individually.

Move the shoe pullers further up each branch and repeat until all nails have been removed.

If the horse exhibits any pain response when you are lifting the shoe, this is when crease nail pullers come in real handy. If crease nail pullers are not an option, then removing the nails individually as indicated above will be your best course of action.

If you don't cut the clinches first, you will have a much more difficult time trying to remove the shoe/nails, and risk damaging the wall and sole.

If the clinches have risen out of their seat in the hoof wall, you might be able to nip them off with a nail nipper. There is also a tool called a clinch cutter which is basically a wide blade steel chisel which is set against the bottom edge of the clinch and struck with a hammer to straighten the clinch or to





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actually cut it off flush with the wall. This can be done from either the trimming position or by bringing the foot forward on the hoof stand. If you bring the hoof forward onto the hoof stand, you should wear safety glasses since you will be cutting the clinches in an upwards (towards your face) direction, and you can very easily get a piece of metal in your eye.

It is much safer and just as efficient to just rasp the clinches. You don't have to get carried away and dig into the wall, because even if you just get them thinned down , they will break loose fairly easily.

