

# Horse Arenas

## Summary

- Rate of Placement: 1" to 1½" of rubber mixed with 1" to 2" of sand placed over a 4" to 6" crushed stone base
- Rubber Type: Cryogenic or Ambient, ¼-inch to 1-inch
- Tires Used: 2 to 3 tires per square yard
  - Example: For a 60-foot by 100-foot (6,000-square-foot) arena, 1,300 scrap tires could be used for 1" thick rubber and 2,000 scrap tires could be used for 1.5" thick rubber
- Hardness Comparison: Hardness readings up to 80% better than on traditional arena surfacing (reduces stress-induced injuries to horses' legs and feet and reduces fall-related injuries of riders)
- Advantages
  - More cushioned arena surface
  - Reduced stress on horses' limbs
  - Reduced stress-related injuries to horses
  - Reduced fall-related injuries to riders
  - Reduced dust
  - Reduced respiratory problems in horses
  - Does not attract insects
  - Reduced susceptibility to freezing
  - Beneficially utilizes waste tires
- Disadvantages
  - Higher cost than conventional arena materials
  - Lack of public awareness
  - Lack of access to specifications



when wet (dirt and wood chips), being too hard when wet (sand), being too hard when dry (dirt), being too weak when dry (sand), and causing respiratory problems in the horses from excessive dust (all three types). Although using crumb rubber in arena surfacing is significantly more expensive than traditional methods, it eliminates all these problems. It provides a more cushioned surface, which reduced stress to horses' limbs, and as a result, reduces stress-related injuries to horses. This softer surface also reduces fall-related injuries to riders. In addition, it has much less dust than traditional surfaces, which results in reduced respiratory problems in the horses. Crumb rubber used in arena surfacing utilizes 2 to 3 scrap tires per square yard for 1" to 1½" of rubber.

- Sources
  - [www.diamond-safety.com/Equine%20Rubber%20Footing.html](http://www.diamond-safety.com/Equine%20Rubber%20Footing.html)
  - [www.rubbermulch.com/arena\\_footing.htm](http://www.rubbermulch.com/arena_footing.htm)
  - [www.groundrubber.com/horse.htm](http://www.groundrubber.com/horse.htm)
  - [www.rubberificmulch.com/rubber\\_mulch\\_horse\\_arena.asp](http://www.rubberificmulch.com/rubber_mulch_horse_arena.asp)
  - [www.equi-tread.com](http://www.equi-tread.com)
  - [www.precisioneq.us/](http://www.precisioneq.us/)
  - [www.horsekeeping.com/horse\\_facilities/footing\\_4.htm](http://www.horsekeeping.com/horse_facilities/footing_4.htm)



Horse arena surfacing is typically constructed of dirt, sand, or wood chips. Although these materials are relatively inexpensive, they have many disadvantages, such as being slippery