

# Quick Start Guide For Saddle Fitters



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#### Our System

Discover what TreeClix is, how it works, and why it's a game-changer for saddle fitting.



#### **Installing TreeClix**

Step-by-step guide to fitting bases and wedges for precise saddle adjustments.

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#### All the tools you need

A complete checklist of everything you'll need for your first TreeClix adjustments.



#### How to measure

Learn how to accurately measure horse and saddle for a perfect fit.

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### <u>Tips and Tricks</u>

Practical advice and insights to make your TreeClix experience smooth and effective.



#### Want to know more?

Discover additional resources, videos, and training opportunities to deepen your knowledge and skills.

### WELCOME!







Welcome to TreeClix! You've just taken the first step in making saddle fitting more practical, precise and adaptable. This guide will walk you through everything you need to get started from measuring and tools you need for installation, to tips and tricks - so you can confidently use TreeClix in your daily work.

I started TreeClix because, as a saddle fitter, I saw how much horses change over time through training, seasonal differences, diet, or even small changes in movement - and how quickly a saddle that once fit perfectly can start to feel uncomfortable for the horse. As a rider and trainer, I always wanted my horses to develop, grow stronger, and move better. To change them was the aim.

When I became a saddle fitter, I realized that even a carefully fitted saddle needs regular adjustment to follow the horse's evolving body. Making those adjustments isn't optional; it's essential if we want to reduce the risk of injuries and keep horses happy and healthy. TreeClix was my solution: a simple and safe way to adjust the tree width (on-site) so it always fits the horse's current condition.

With TreeClix, it's possible to check the fit of a saddle and fine-tune it immediately, making sure the saddle is comfortable for the horse and supportive for the rider right away. It is never just about measurement. It's about seeing the horse move at its best, giving the rider confidence, and knowing the horse feels free, safe, and comfortable every single day.

- Jolanda van der Leeden, founder and owner of TreeClix

## OUR SYSTEM

#### A perfect fit, every time!



- Endless adjustment of tree width up to 4 cm
- System with bases and wedges
- Adjust the tree width in steps of 5mm
- Say goodbye to broken rivets and trees caused by adjustment on the press.
- Simple and fast installation during manufacturing and on-site. Most standard pockets accommodate our system!
- Easy adjustment for saddle fitters, perfect fit for horse and rider → Happy Horse, Happy Rider & Happy Saddle Fitter!



#### The Bases

- Installed in just a few minutes
- Space for hardware, such as nails and staples
- Available in 2 width sizes: Regular (4 cm) and Wide (5 cm)

#### 7 wedge thicknesses





from 5mm to 35mm in steps of 5mm



#### The Wedges

- Tapered design and rounded at the tip for maximum comfort
- Secured with a 'click' onto the base
- 7 wedge thicknesses from 5mm to 35mm in steps of 5mm

#### **Understanding Wedge Sizing**

The wedge size corresponds to the overall alteration in total tree width when using two identical wedges. For example, attaching 10mm wedges (both left and right) onto the bases results in adding 10mm in total, rather than 20mm.





Check out this video where we clearly explain what TreeClix is and how the system works to help you fit saddles more accurately.

# INSTALLING TREECLIX

Installing TreeClix is straightforward, but a few details can make all the difference. The bases are fixed to the tree points: the ones marked 'L' go on the left, and the ones marked 'R' go on the right. Each base has 7 screw holes, giving you flexibility to avoid wood, nails, or staples. Just two to three screws are enough to secure each base.

When positioning the bases, double check that left and right are aligned – the same angle forward or backward, and set at the same height. This ensures the wedges will sit correctly and the adjustments will be accurate.



Left and right side base



Right side base positioned correctly



Base neatly placed under gullet lining

The pockets must leave enough room for the wedges to slide in fully alongside the tree points. Sometimes this means a little pocket adjustment is needed. To ensure TreeClix compatibility, have your manufacturer install it during production so panels and pockets are tailored. Some manufacturers offer TC-ready saddles for straightforward on-site installation.



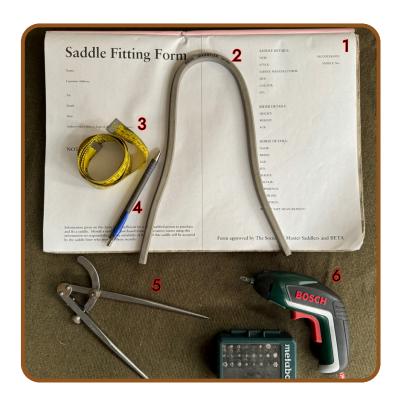


Be sure to watch this video. It walks you through every step of installing TreeClix, so you can feel confident fitting it on any saddle.

If your favorite saddle brand doesn't offer TreeClix yet, but you'd love them to — let us know. We'll reach out and take it from there.

# ALL THE TOOLS YOU NEED

Having the right tools is essential for a job well done! Here's a sneak peek into our toolkit:





- 1 A3 paper
- 2 Flexicurve or flexible ruler
- 3 Soft yet solid measuring tape
- 4 Pen
- 5 Spring compass/wing divider
- 6 Screwdriver, manual or electric
- 7 Screws (35mmx13 and 35mmx16)
- 8 Scissors
- 9 Waxed thread (1.0-1.4mm) and needles (curved and blunt-pointed straight)

Other tools that might come in handy are:

- Nail puller/nail claw
- Revolving punch plier
- Electric stapler (and extension cord)

- 10 Pliers (ideal for pulling thread/needle through)
- 11 Economy staple lifter (used as a shoe horn, to pull the pocket around the treepoint)
- 12 Clicker knife (curved or straight) with spare blades
- 13 Hammer (for removing and flattening hardware)
- 14 Wooden mallet, to use together with the destapler
- 15 Destapler

- Quilting needle
- Awl (curved, straight and pointed)

### HOW TO MEASURE

#### How to decide what TreeClix setting is needed:



Measure the horse 5 cm behind the scapula (where the tree points sit) with a flexible ruler and trace the measurement on your template form.



Open the saddle and use a divider to measure the tree point length correctly.



Put the divider on the template to determine the correct spot to measure the width of the horse.



Measure the width of the horse at this point and compare this to the saddle's measurement.



A guideline: we advise to start with approximately 1-3 cm narrower than the horse. Use the appropriate TreeClix wedge to adjust the saddle width.

Example: if a horse measures 27 cm on a certain tree point length, the tree width should measure approximately 24-26 cm on that same length (depending on length of the tree point and shape of horse and saddle). Test a few settings while riding and you will definitely find the perfect setting as horse, rider and saddle will show you! Enjoy!

Want to know more about templating a horse? <u>Click here for a video</u>

# TIPS & TRICKS



1. Trust the horse: Our guideline of 1–3 cm narrower than the template is a great starting point, but let the horse guide you. Adjust step by step until the horse shows you the best fit.

2. Quick testing hack: with laced-front saddles, use screws while testing settings. It saves time and makes swapping easy. When you're done, close it neatly with lacing (or felt and screws; with the owner's OK).





3. Watch for overflocking: if the front of a saddle has been heavily flocked to "fix" a tree set too wide, you may need to rebalance or remove flock once TreeClix wedges are in - as we don't want to put panels with too much tension on the horse.

4. Sometimes wider is wiser: For horses with atrophy, you can set the tree about 1 cm wider than usual. A therapeutic pad helps to provide gentle support where muscles are lacking, especially during lateral movements and turns.





5. Know how you template: every fitter templates a little differently, so our guidelines are just that - guidelines. It's important to understand your own way of templating and to find the starting point that works best for you.

# WANT TO KNOW MORE?







Click here for

more info!

There's plenty of support to help you get the most out of TreeClix. From videos and social media tips to online training, webinars, and live sessions; these resources give you clear guidance and practical examples for working with saddles and horses.

#### TreeClix Specialist Program (TSP)

The <u>TreeClix Specialist Program</u> is an 8-week online course designed for saddle fitters and makers who want to broaden their understanding of saddle fitting in daily practice. It combines clear video lessons, assignments, and live online meetings with other participants to give you practical tools for fitting saddles more precisely and supporting both horse and rider with confidence.

#### Webinars & Live Masterclasses

We also host shorter webinars and live masterclasses on specific topics. These are perfect if you want to focus on a certain challenge or if you're looking to learn together in a group. If you'd like us to organize one for your team or region, just let us know. We're always happy to discuss the possibilities.

#### Social Media resources

www.treeclix.com - all the info you need, plus product support and updates

@TreeClix – quick tips, behind-the-scenes posts, and short videos

© @TreeClix – updates, helpful posts, and upcoming events

YouTube Channel - step-by-step installation videos, tutorials, and reviews

# TREECLIX

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