

Hi everyone! This is the AskAnnie Podcast horse girl reviews on products you use!

First off, thank you to WF Young and Absorbine for the products used in this episode.

Absorbine provided us with four products to review for this episode: Magic Cushion, Magic Cushion Xtreme, UltraShield® EX Insecticide & Repellent and ShowSheen® Hair Polish & Detangler. All of these products are perfect for the summer months, as we ride more, travel to different events and just get outside more often. They all are practical, useful products that every horseman should have in their barn.

I first tested the UltraShield® EX Insecticide & Repellent. This is a heavy duty repellent spray and according to the Absorbine website, kills and repels more than 70 species of insects. Right off the bat I was impressed with the presentation of this product. It comes in a sturdy plastic bottle with a sleek, narrow design that makes it easy to hold with one hand. The spray nozzle is the next thing I noticed when looking at the UltraShield® EX Insecticide & Repellent bottle. It also had a narrow rectangular design, instead of the traditional rounded spray nozzle. I found this spray design to be incredibly innovative when I used this product on Maddie. When applying the product to Maddie's neck, barrel and haunches, I used the spray applicator in the horizontal position, which produced a wide spray fan that covered a large area of Maddie's body. When I applied the UltraShield® EX Insecticide & Repellent to Maddie's legs and teat area, I used the nozzle in the vertical position. This produced a tall spray fan, that allowed me to apply the repellent easily to Maddie's legs in just a few sprays. This unique design also accommodates for upside down spraying, which is so helpful especially when spraying the belly. As horse owners, we're always trying to use our materials as consciously and frugally as possible, and I think this unique spray application would cut down on repellent waste in the long run, due to its specifically designed targeting spray functions. Another very practical function of the UltraShield® EX Insecticide & Repellent is that it is waterproof, up to 17 days in fact! This again, shows the usability of this product and allows us to keep our horses as protected from pesky bugs as possible, even during the hot summer months.

Next, I tested ShowSheen® Hair Polish & Detangler. Like I've said before, Maddie has some thick locks, and if I don't regularly maintain them her tail gets ringlet-like tangles that take some time, and patience, to work out. I have to admit, I hadn't been out to the barn for a few days prior to testing this spray, so Maddie's tail was a perfect candidate. I sprayed a generous amount on Maddie's tail; like the UltraShield® EX Insecticide & Repellent bottle, this nozzle also featured the horizontal and vertical fan options, so I used the vertical fan spray function to thoroughly coat her tail. Upon application of the ShowSheen® Hair Polish & Detangler, Maddie's tail produced an immediate shine. As I brushed out the tangles from the bottom up, I noticed the spray was adhered to her tail, protecting it from breakage and further knots. After I had completed the combing, Maddie's tail shone in the sunlight, looked flawless and smelt wonderful. Another interesting component that I learned about ShowSheen® Hair Polish & Detangler is that it is safe to use on a number of different animals, including dogs, cattle, goats, pigs and many more! Some of you may remember Addie, our Australian Shepherd puppy, from previous episodes, and Addie's hair is so luxurious and fluffy that sometimes it gets little tangles. I tried the ShowSheen® Hair Polish & Detangler behind her ear on one of her tangles and it worked great on her as well!

While out at the barn, I also tried the Magic Cushion and Magic Cushion Xtreme on Maddie's front feet. I had never used Magic Cushion Xtreme before, and wasn't prepared for how therapeutic it would smell or look. This hoof packing material is a translucent brown granular substance, that has an earthy zest smell to it. It is very sticky and malleable, so Absorbine recommends using latex gloves to apply it to the hoof. Absorbine recommends two different application processes depending on if your horse is shod or not and the severity of the pain. Since Maddie has shoes on year-round and not showing any soreness, I didn't wrap her foot after applying the Magic Cushion Xtreme. I first cleaned her hoof out, making sure to get all of the dirt out of the creases between her hoof and her shoe, so that the Magic Cushion would be able to adhere to her hoof. I used the pick and the stiff brush of my hoof-pick, to ensure I removed as much dirt as possible. Then, using my gloved hands, I began to pack her foot from the frog out with the Magic Cushion Xtreme. Once I had filled her foot in with the substance, making sure there wasn't any overflow that would squeeze outside of her shoes once I put her foot down, I set her foot down in a pile of shavings. According to the directions of use on the tub, this tactic works well for keeping the packing in place. Sure enough, the sawdust stuck to the bottom of the padding and kept the contents inside the hoof. Absorbine's website states that after applying Magic Cushion, the horse's hoof heat should begin to decrease within an hour and last up to 24 hours. They also explain that the difference between Magic Cushion and Magic Cushion Xtreme is that the Xtreme version uses a higher concentration of ingredients and therefore provided faster and stronger relief. I noticed a difference in the consistency and appearance of these two substances. The Magic Cushion had a denser appearance, and almost looks like thick brownie batter, whereas the Magic Cushion Xtreme has more of a gel appearance. Both of these products seem incredibly useful to have on-hand, and both apply to the average horse person and the performance rider.

To find more information on any of these products please visit [absorbine.com](http://absorbine.com).

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