

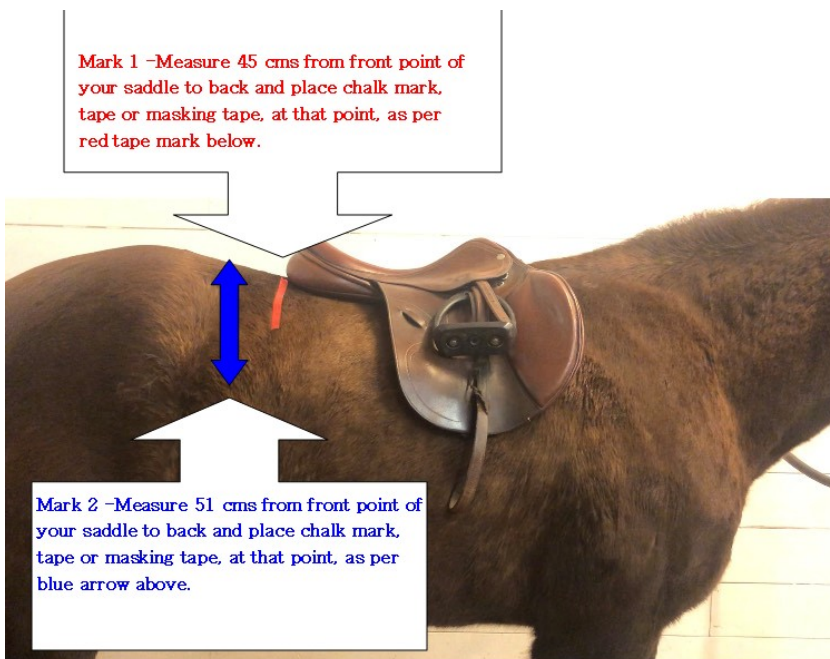
Short Backed & Forward Girth Groove Horses and the Bua Saddle. (Updated 15th June 2021)

Firstly, it is important to remember that the Bua saddle is 17.5 inches in size and in general it is fitting 80% of (difficult to fit) horses which require a 17.5 inch saddle. When looking at short backed horses (& also forward girth groove etc) in addition to our [BASIC SADDLE FIT INFORMATION](#) it is also important that we get the following images:

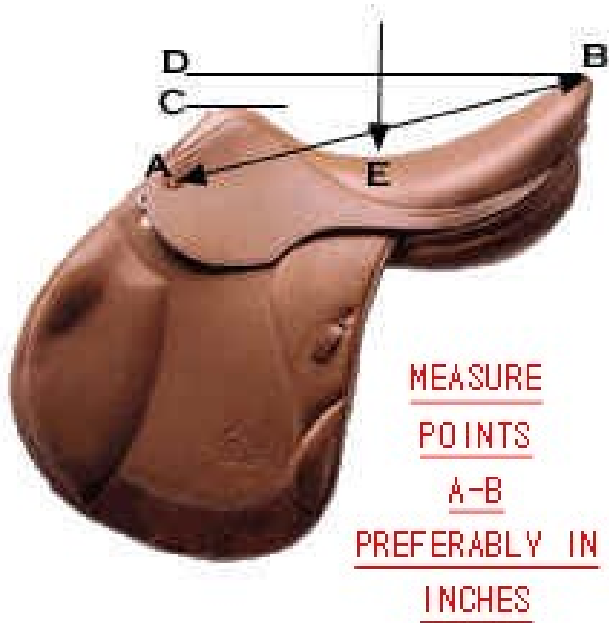
(1) Measurement for weight bearing area and panel length.



(2) Measurement of existing saddle at 45 cms & 51cm points.



(3) Measure existing saddle size if not known already.



The Bua Original weighs 4.1 Kilos in weight and many horses with back related soreness issues (not necessarily related to saddles) appreciate and respond better to the lighter weight saddle.

Here is [A LISTING OF HORSES SUITED TO A BUA SADDLE](#) , this should not be taken that the saddle will fit every single horse, and this listing compiled from our customers does not necessarily indicate for definite that the saddle will work for your own specific horse.

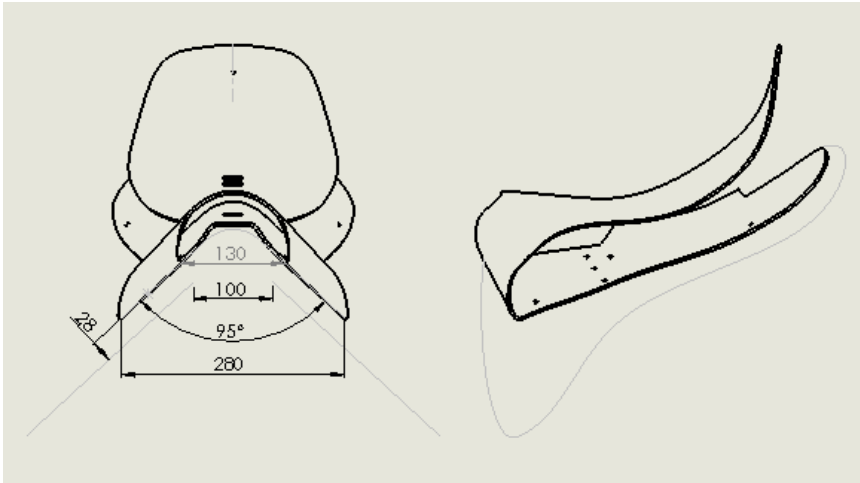
Please note that as a rule we do not measure or place the same emphasis and comparison on length as you would with a standard English saddle, mainly as the flaps are moving in real time with your horses back, (as opposed to a standard tree which is usually fixed and rigid), also as the panels are considerably wider than a standard panel, the rider weight distribution is placed over a greater area. If you get a saddle fitter to pressure test the kidney area, we would expect that you should not have undue kidney pressure.

With short backed horses, we look at a combination of overall length of back, rider weight, rider discipline and breed of horse along with the usual case history. In addition, you can have all the anti-slip pads in the world, but a [SHAPED GIRTH](#) is vital - Purpose is that the middle part is on the breastbone (where the girth wants to sit) but the buckles curve out so the billets can be fastened more to the back. This will also give greater shoulder freedom, and less creases at the elbows, preventing rubs

(Image 4) In addition, we may recommend a customisation of adding billet keepers on the back of the flaps to hold the girth in the most forward groove position. For saddles that slip forward the first 2 holes are the most important.



(Image 5) Gullet & Panels Diagram.



The saddle gullet is set at 95deg. The panel length of the tree is 450mm approximately. With the panel pad attached it is an extra 10 - 60mm at the front and 25mm at the back. The attached image might help you visualise the dimensions. The image is only indicative so please don't measure off drawing. Hope this helps and is of interest

(Image 6 of very short backed horse & Rider - with Bua Saddle



(Image 7 of very short backed horse & Rider - with Bua Saddle



As always we are most grateful to all our customers, sellers and saddle fitters around the world, who have shared fitting information with us and we are constantly looking at ways to improve fit. Indeed if you have anything to add, please get in touch with our International Manager, Ivor Young by email on info@buasaddles.com