

## The History of Western Work Boots

Workboots have an interesting history in the United States. The designs and styles have changed, and sometimes, workboots are becoming fashionable to wear even out of the workplace experience. Western work boots are named such because they are a historical type footwear worn by cowboys. Today, anyone can appreciate a good cowboy boot, but you will still see these used on a ranch, farm, or while riding.

The roper is one type of footwear that is a boot but does not go to the middle of the calf as is common with the majority of western work boots. The roper falls between the middle of the calf and above the ankle. These are easy to wear and fun coming in a wide array of styles popular today. Every generation has a different type of style and design they prefer, and this means manufacturers will create what is needed to get you a better footwear whether needed for aesthetic purposes or grungy working days.

Fortunately, the hide used to make these workboots will vary a great deal offering a unique experience to each piece of footwear. For instance, you can use elephant, string ray, eel, ostrich, snake, alligator, buffalo, elk, deer, or other exotic types of leather to make the footwear you need. Whether you choose an exotic leather or a more traditional cattle leather, you will find that the design is exceptional based on the professionalism and uniqueness of the manufacturer in question.

Even the design is perfect for protecting the “cowboy”. Generally, these are loose around the ankle allowing for quick removal in a bind. Plus, the lack of shoelaces means that there is nothing to catch and bind you down. Imagine the pain of trying to dismount your horse only to find your shoelaces have gotten stuck. With a simple cowboy boot, this is going to be less of a problem allowing you the security you need to concentrate on working instead of dismounting.

The original toe was narrow and slightly rounded making it easier to get your foot into the stirrup. The treadles sole is going to allow a gentle gliding motion into the stirrup as well. It wasn't until the early 1940s that the toe started getting pointy and sharp. The pointed toe can actually be more uncomfortable to work in than the slightly rounded toe. This means you will need to investigate the differences and choose the one that is right for you.

The tall heel is common in the western work boots, but there is a reason!

A tall heel allows your foot more stability while in the saddle. You will not have the problems with slippage that is evident with other styles of boot. In addition, the shaft is high to protect your leg and ankle from that rubbing motion that can be painful. Every piece of the boot is designed for functionality and reliability.

When you choose western work boots, you are choosing a highly functional piece of working apparel that can mean a lot to your health and vitality. You get more of the stuff you need, and a brief history goes a long way in making you more comfortable in the saddle.

### About the Author

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