

# Swell Fork Styles A to L

## What the Name Means

As we discuss in our main [Swell Forks](#) page, the names of the different forks now really apply to the shape only, although originally these names could have stood for a specific stock thickness, gullet height and width. The shapes are stretched or squashed a bit depending on the change in these specifications but we try to keep the fork shape, determined by the top slope, side shape and back shape, as consistent as possible.

## Horn Specifications

All these styles originated with metal horns, but wood post horns on swell forks are becoming more popular all the time. This does affect the gullet thickness and therefore the hand hole and gullet height relationship. (Please see [Avoiding the Withers](#) for further explanation.) All the variations in horn specifications are completely independent of the fork style.

## Arizona Roper

The back sweep added to this fork with minimal top slope and a straight undercut to the sides makes this a distinctive style fork.



Arizona Roper  
3 ¾" stock plus backsweep



12" Arizona Roper

## Bowman

With a very rounded shape due to a moderate slope to the top and minimal and low undercut, this is a fork shape that works well at a smaller width. 12" is most common, but for people who want a lighter weight saddle an 11" Bowman often is chosen. Most are leaned ahead, though we have made a few stood up Bowman forks.



Bowman fork  
3 3/4" stock



Wood Post Bowman fork  
4 1/4" stock



11" Bowman fork



11" wood post Bowman fork



12" Bowman fork



12" wood post Bowman fork

## Buster Welch

The original Buster Welch was a stood up fork, though we have also leaned it ahead when asked. It is rounded all the way down to the bars with no undercut on the side. 13" is the most common width, though we have made 12" and 12 1/2" also.



Buster Welch fork, leaned ahead  
3 3/4" stock



Buster Welch fork, stood up  
4" stock



12" Buster Welch fork



12 1/2" Buster Welch fork



13" Buster Welch fork

## Chuck Sheppard

We have also seen this fork style spelled as a Chuck Shepard and Chuck Shepherd, though we believe the original name was spelled Sheppard. We have made Chuck Sheppards from 11" to 13 1/2" wide, but due to amount of top slope it has, it is best at narrower widths. 12" is the most common order we get for width.



Chuck Sheppard fork, 3 3/4" stock



Wood post Chuck Sheppard, 4 1/4" stock



11" wood post Chuck Sheppard fork



12 1/2" Chuck Sheppard fork



12" wood post Chuck Sheppard fork

## Chuck Sheppard (con't)



13" Chuck Sheppard fork



13" wood post Chuck Sheppard fork

## Dee Pickett

This is another fork style with lots of top slope, slightly more than a Chuck Sheppard, but the undercut comes up the sides more than on a Chuck Sheppard.



Dee Pickett fork, 3 3/4" stock



12" Dee Pickett fork



## High Country

The High Country pattern was developed by Matt Eberle, a well respected maker of cowboy rigs from High River, Alberta. His original pattern, moderate top slope and no undercut on the sides, was developed so that he could easily cover it without a welt. It was 12 ½” wide and designed to be a stood up fork. We have made them from 11” to 13” wide, with most stood up but the occasional one leaned ahead. A wood post horn on a High Country is a pretty common order.



High Country fork, stood up  
3 ¾” stock



Wood Post High Country fork, stood up  
4 ¼” stock



11” wood post High Country fork

## High Country (con't)



12" High Country fork



12" wood post High Country fork



12 1/2" High Country fork



12 1/2" wood post High Country fork



13" High Country fork



13" wood post High Country fork

## Louellen

We have also seen this name spelled Lieuallen, Lieullen, and Lieuellen, but we use the Louellen spelling for simplicity's sake. This fork has the same style of undercut on the sides as the Modified Association, but it has more top slope to it. The most common width we build is 12", though 13" is not uncommon and we have made them as wide as 14".



Louellen fork, 3 3/4" stock



Wood Post Louellen fork, 4 1/4" stock



12" Louellen fork



12" wood post Louellen fork



## Louellen (con't)



13" Louellen fork



13" wood post Louellen fork



14" wood post Louellen fork