

NEWTON RUNNING: LEADING THE NATURAL RUNNING MOVEMENT

Our Take on Barefoot Running

Many of you have seen or heard the numerous national news stories about barefoot running in the past few days. This news comes on the heels of the recently published study of “Foot strike patterns and collision forces in habitually barefoot versus shod runners” by Harvard University anthropologist Dan Lieberman. In the study, Dr. Lieberman concludes that modern, cushioned running shoes change the way humans run and barefoot runners are more efficient and less prone to injury.

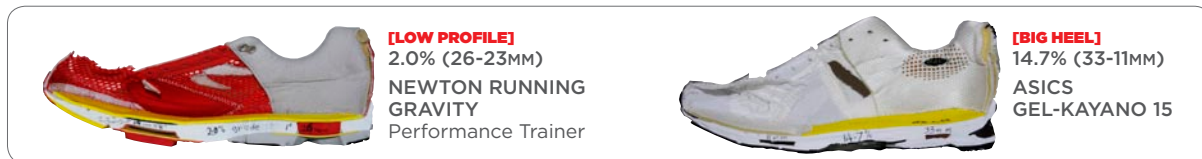
That comes as no surprise to us at Newton Running. Our company was founded on the belief that the lifted heel in modern running shoes promotes improper form and can contribute to various injuries. Our shoes are designed specifically to accommodate and enhance natural running foot-strike and gait and are based on decades of research and observation on shoe technology and running mechanics.

Running barefoot is not a viable option for most people, except for short training sessions on forgiving surfaces. Plus, the transition to barefoot running or ultra-minimalist shoes can be difficult and/or painful for runners who have spent their whole lives running in heavily cushioned and overly structured shoes.

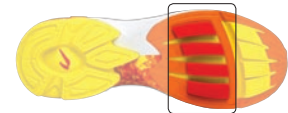
Newton Running shoes feature a geometry and design that facilitates your natural gait and protects you from harsh running surfaces. We offer the only viable alternative to both modern running shoes and barefoot/ultra-minimalist shoe running.

1. Typical running shoes feature a thick, padded heel and a steep heel-to-forefoot ramp angle (gradient), which encourages heavy heel striking, increases shock loads and dampens afferent feedback (the ability to sense the surface under your shoes).

Newton Running shoes have a negligible gradient (between 1% and 3%) which allows your foot to land with a reduced impact and take advantage of your body’s natural suspension system.



2. Newton Running shoes provide industry-leading impact force reduction and energy return with our proprietary Action Reaction Technology™ strategically placed on the sweet spot under your forefoot.
3. Newton Running shoes are built with a biomechanical plate positioned directly under your metatarsals to enhance afferent feedback and allow your feet to spread naturally under load. The soft foam in regular running shoes dampens and blocks valuable protective feedback at foot strike. Without feeling the ground, runners will impact and push harder, creating the possibility for injury.
4. The anatomically designed upper and midsole allows your foot to move naturally throughout the gait cycle. In contrast, most modern running shoes are highly structured, rigidly encasing your foot and preventing natural movement. Over time, this weakens the the foot and creates overuse of propulsive muscles/tendons, increasing the likelihood of running injuries.



Coaches around the world routinely use barefoot drills to improve running form. Newton Running has created the first natural running shoes for everyday training and racing that encourage barefoot running form. Join us in the Natural Running revolution.

Sincerely,

Danny Abshire CO-FOUNDER AND CTO | Ian Adamson DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

REFERENCE LINKS:

<http://barefootrunning.fas.harvard.edu/>
<http://www.newtonrunning.com/run-better/improve-your-running>
<http://www.newtonrunning.com/run-better/newton-running-videos/injury-prevention>
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8483401.stm>
<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTR60Q6FA20100127?type=sportsNews>
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=123031997>