



Australian Government

**Assessment Requirements for
ACMEQU309 Carry out basic hoof care
procedures**

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 5.0.

Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has carried out basic hoof care procedures on at least three different live, compliant and manageable horses. For each horse, the individual must have picked up a front and hind leg and demonstrated use of nippers and rasp to perform a light trim of the hooves.

For at least one live horse, the individual must have:

- applied a poultice to a hoof
- detected a digital pulse.

In addition to the above, the individual must have:

- used a live horse to indicate the location and signs of, and verbally explained first aid treatment for, the following hoof conditions/ailments:
 - laminitis (founder)
 - bruised heel
 - bruised sole and corn
 - hoof abscess
 - hoof crack (toe crack, quarter crack, heel crack)
 - thrush
 - seedy toe bacteria (white line disease)
- observed movement and behaviour of a live horse (or video of a live horse), and identified lameness and its likely location.

All hoof care contact and activities with horses must be carried out using safe and low stress horse handling practices. For each horse, the individual must have:

- identified at least three hazards related to undertaking hoof care, and assessed and controlled associated risks
- selected, checked and correctly fitted appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) required for hoof care
- used safe position and posture when working with horses' hooves
- used appropriate tools and practices to examine and clean horse hooves
- applied a dressing or treatment to all hooves
- accurately updated workplace horse hoof care records.

In addition to the above, the individual must have:

- removed a loose shoe and performed any necessary hoof trim according to workplace procedures or specialist advice (NOTE: This may be performed on a cadaver horse leg)
- provided a brief written or verbal report to a veterinarian or farrier describing a hoof care condition using industry terminology and requesting specialist advice.

Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- structure and function of the hoof, and associated problems
- common horse behaviour and reactions to hoof care
- signs and first aid treatment of common hoof injuries, ailments and injuries, including:
 - laminitis (founder)
 - bruised heel
 - bruised sole and corn
 - hoof abscess
 - hoof crack (toe crack, quarter crack, heel crack)
 - thrush
 - seedy toe bacteria (white line disease)
- hoof ailments and injuries that require immediate professional advice and/or attendance
- horse shoes, including:
 - fit and common problems
 - signs of hoof growth that indicate need for reshoeing
 - signs of loose, worn and damaged shoes, including sprung shoes
 - hoof injuries and ailments caused by loose, worn and damaged horse shoes
 - techniques for safe removal of loose shoes
- hoof care examination and treatment procedures
- types, purpose, use and maintenance of hoof care tools and equipment, including horse restraints and farriery equipment used for basic hoof care
- common workplace health and safety requirements and practices relating to hoof care, including:

- hazard identification, risk assessment, risk control and reporting
- horse behaviour based on horse education and/or soundness of limbs
- types and purpose of PPE
- safe and low stress horse handling and hoof treatment practices
- workplace procedures for recording, storing and reporting horse health information.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - an equine workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - live horses specified in the performance evidence, assessed as suitable for the assessment of this unit and the individual being assessed
 - a video of a live horse may be used for the observation and identification of lameness as specified in the performance evidence
 - cadaver horse legs may be used for the loose shoe removal and any hoof trims specified in the performance evidence
 - medications, gear, materials, tools and equipment, including PPE, required for the tasks specified in the performance evidence
 - workplace recording and reporting forms or systems
- specifications:
 - workplace horse hoof health procedures.

The *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training* provides advice and sample templates to assist assessors with the risk assessments that should be undertaken to help ensure the safety of all involved in the assessment.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>