



Australian Government

ACMEQU211 Prepare horses for competition, presentation or sale

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to prepare a well-educated, calm, consistent and obedient horse for exhibition in sales, competition or promotion. It involves washing, grooming and trimming horses; cleaning and fitting equipment; and monitoring horses during and after events.

This unit applies to individuals who have no experience, limited experience or no recent experience working in horse industry sectors. They undertake defined routine activities under supervision with limited responsibility for their own work in environments including wash bays, grooming bays, yards and stables at competition, and sales venues or workplaces.

No licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication, except for the racing industry, where requirements vary between states and territories. Users working in the racing industry are advised to contact the relevant Principal Racing Authority for advice on current requirements.

Work health and safety and animal welfare legislation relevant to interacting with horses applies to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and state/territory jurisdictions. Users are advised to check with the relevant authority for specific requirements.

NOTE: The terms ‘occupational health and safety’ (OHS) and ‘work health and safety’ (WHS) generally have the same meaning in the workplace. In jurisdictions where the national model WHS legislation has not been implemented, RTOs must contextualise the unit of competency by referring to current OHS legislative requirements.

Pre-requisite Unit

Prerequisite unit of competency for this unit is:

- ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely.

Note the following chain of prerequisites that also applies to this unit.

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely	ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour

Unit Sector

Equine (EQU)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Plan presentation requirements	1.1 Carry out basic risk assessment, considering horse body language and behaviour and environmental conditions 1.2 Identify the different grooming standards for competition, presentation and sale requirements 1.3 Confirm with supervisor the timeframes for completing grooming tasks, and feeding and watering schedule for the event 1.4 Confirm clean and check condition of required equipment 1.5 Adjust the fit of equipment prior to event 1.6 Check hoof and shoe condition and report to supervisor 1.7 Prepare event grooming equipment and gear inventory
2. Wash and groom horse to presentation standard	2.1 Select appropriate washing products according to coat type, condition and colour, and complete horse washing requirements 2.2 Confirm the competition or breed standard requirements for coat presentation 2.3 Select grooming tools and products according to workplace practices 2.4 Groom to remove loose hair and encourage the coat to lay flat
3. Trim coat to maintain established style	3.1 Confirm trimming requirements with supervisor 3.2 Identify hazards and demonstrate safe handling and positioning techniques when using scissors, clippers and blades around horses

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	3.3 Determine the competition or breed standard requirements for coat trimming 3.4 Select and prepare trimming tools 3.5 Trim tail length and dock hair thickness 3.6 Trim mane to even out thickness and length or cut off depending on breed 3.7 Trim bridle path and withers to the established trim pattern 3.8 Trim jaw line, legs and outside ear line to enhance the basic conformation without compromising horse welfare 3.9 Clean and complete basic maintenance of trimming tools
4. Plait mane and tail	4.1 Confirm with supervisor the style or plaiting and number of plaits to be created 4.2 Identify potential horse welfare issues and remedies related to plaiting manes and trimming or plaiting tails 4.3 Use grooming techniques and products to encourage mane and tail hair to lay flat 4.4 Divide the mane and plait down to produce plaits of even thickness 4.5 Run up plaits and forelock in the required style and secure 4.6 Groom tail and prepare in required style
5. Complete final grooming	5.1 Apply grooming products to highlight the coat 5.2 Apply face and leg makeup to enhance features and remove stains 5.3 Apply quarter marks that enhance horse conformation 5.4 Dress hooves to comply with event requirements
6. Tack-up horse for event	6.1 Confirm the time and location horse is required 6.2 Ensure competition or lot numbers are correct and are fitted to horse, handler and/or rider according to competition requirements 6.3 Check gear requirements and fit and adjust equipment to horse 6.4 Complete final check and wipe over

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	6.5 Present horse to handler, rider and/or driver
7. Complete post-event care	7.1 Cool down horse post-event 7.2 Ensure horse is monitored and managed according to weather conditions 7.3 Remove and brush out plaits after event 7.4 Remove makeup and hoof dressing according to workplace practices 7.5 Provide horse with feed and water according to supervisor instructions 7.6 Clean and store equipment 7.7 Check and report supply levels of grooming products

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Oral communication	- Use active listening and questioning to clarify and confirm supervisor instructions - Use industry-standard terminology to identify and describe competition, sale and promotional event environments
Navigate the world of work	Follow work health and safety and animal welfare requirements, relating to own role and work area
Get the work done	Assemble gear and tack for task and follow clear, sequenced instructions to prepare horses for competition, presentation or sale

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status

ACMEQU211 Prepare horses for competition, presentation or sale	Not applicable	New unit	No equivalent unit
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Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>

Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU211 Prepare horses for competition, presentation or sale

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Performance Evidence

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

There must be evidence that the individual prepared at least three well-educated, calm, consistent and obedient horses for competition, presentation or sale in a variety of settings and conditions, including:

- using safe horse handling methods, including horse and handler positioning techniques while washing, grooming, trimming and tacking-up in open and confined spaces
- using and caring for gear and equipment, including personal protective equipment (PPE)
- performing pre- and post-event grooming and washing procedures according to event requirements and workplace procedures
- trimming horses using scissors or small trimming clippers or razors or thinning combs and blades
- demonstrating horse mane and tail techniques to:
 - even out the thickness and length of manes and tails using manual pulling or thinning blades
 - prepare horses for specific breed standards presentation
 - select and fit event gear to horses as directed
 - select and use shampoos and other grooming products according to coat type and presentation requirements and according to workplace practices.

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:

- general competition show, sale or promotional event procedures
- common horse body language, behaviour and social traits related to horse competition, sale and public environments
- horse grooming techniques for a range of different breed standards and competition requirements

- safe horse handling techniques and zones
- purpose and use of horse grooming tools and products and potential impact on horse welfare
- symptoms and signs of horse distress during grooming and event activities
- cleaning and maintenance requirements for grooming tools for horse competition or sales event
- type and purpose of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- potential biosecurity and horse health hazards at competition and sale venues, and ways to minimise the risks that may occur at horse competitions, sales or promotional events
- potential hazards in horse grooming, trimming and washing in open and confined spaces
- styles including rosette, sewn, running and tail plaiting and application techniques
- styles of quarter marks and application techniques
- mane and tail trimming techniques and equipment used to:
 - even out the thickness and length of manes and tails using manual pulling and thinning blades
 - measure and trim tail length
 - hog manes
- types and purpose of horse gear required for competition and sales.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various live, quiet, consistent and obedient horses assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - appropriate tack for individual, horse and competition, presentation or sale activity
 - personal protective equipment (PPE) applicable for activity for the individual.

Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of the use of guidance provided in the *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training*.

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

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