



Australian Government

ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely

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.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to identify, safely catch, control, handle and release calm, consistent and obedient horses educated for the relevant activity. It covers knowledge of potential risks when handling horses to support the welfare and safety of the individual, other workers and the horse.

This unit applies to workers who undertake routine work under supervision and apply knowledge and judgement to solve predictable issues when handling horses. Work environments may include stables, paddocks, yards, tracks, work arenas and other exercise areas.

Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety and animal welfare legislation, regulations and codes of practice relevant to interacting with horses apply to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and jurisdictions.

No licensing, legislative 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.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

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>

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1. Identify horses and their typical behaviour	1.1 Distinguish horses by their features 1.2 Identify horse behaviour related to the natural instincts, sensory perceptions and social behaviour of horses 1.3 Identify and interpret common horse body language 1.4 Identify how horse behaviour is affected by human behaviour 1.5 Identify environmental factors that may affect horse behaviour
2. Identify and control personal risks when handling horses	2.1 Identify horse and known temperament, behaviour and level of education of horse prior to handling 2.2 Check and confirm suitability of horse against own handling ability, and required activities 2.3 Identify hazards, and assess and control and/or report risks related to handling horse 2.4 Use appropriate personal behaviour and body language when handling horse
3. Safely catch, lead, secure and release horse	3.1 Select and fit personal protective equipment (PPE) according to workplace procedures 3.2 Locate horse and observe horse body language and behaviour before approaching 3.3 Select appropriate horse gear for handling horse safely 3.4 Catch horse using halter, and lead, tie up and release horse using safe and low stress handling techniques 3.5 Lead horse through gateways and narrow openings, and among other horses and people 3.6 Catch, lead and release a horse within a group of horses 3.7 Apply suitable horse restraint techniques and/or equipment to secure and control horse for proposed activity 3.8 Lift fore and hind limbs and check horse's hooves
4. Respond to immediate safety risks	4.1 Monitor horse behaviour during all handling activities, and respond to situations and hazards that arise to avoid injury to self, others and horse 4.2 Use safe and low stress handling techniques to control or minimise risks to horse and handler 4.3 Report and seek assistance from supervisor on incidents and/or

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	risks beyond level of own responsibility

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
Numeracy	Estimate and measure distance, area, weight, temperature and time
Oral communication	- Use active listening and questioning techniques to clarify and confirm supervisor instructions - Use industry terminology to describe horses, gear and equipment used for handling horses

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely	ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely	Unit redesigned to include greater knowledge and application of horse behaviour and safe horse handling skills for a broader range of tasks and contexts Includes content from ACMEQU202 <i>Handle horses safely</i>, and ACMEQU205 <i>Apply knowledge of horse behaviour</i> Prerequisite unit removed Major changes to all	Not equivalent

		sections of the unit	
ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely	ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour	Redesigned unit that includes content from <i>ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely</i> , and <i>ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour</i>	Not equivalent

Links

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