



Australian Government

ACMEQU301 Introduce horses to lunge exercise

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 educate a horse for lunging exercise by introducing techniques, routines and gear, and voice commands and signals used to control and direct a horse to lunge calmly. It includes understanding the potential risks associated with interacting with horses, and the application of industry guidelines and procedures to ensure the welfare and safety of the individual and the horse.

The unit applies to individuals who have moderate experience in handling horses to be able to lunge a suitably educated, compliant and manageable horse in working environments that include round yards and fenced exercise arenas in a broad range of horse industry sectors. They undertake work in a range of known contexts; work under broad direction; take responsibility for own work, and use discretion and judgement in the selection and use of available resources.

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:

- ACMEQU210 Lunge educated horses.

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

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
ACMEQU210 Lunge educated horses	ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely
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. Prepare to lunge horse	1.1 Identify and assess risks associated with lungeing horses, including horse behaviour and environmental hazards and risks 1.2 Select methods and techniques for introducing inexperienced horses to lungeing 1.3 Assess suitability of horses to be trained to lunge relevant to handler skill, and discuss with supervisor 1.4 Select appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and ensure correct fit 1.5 Select and check lungeing equipment and fit working gear to horse according to supervisor instructions 1.6 Select suitable lungeing area and report any hazards or risks beyond own control to supervisor prior to commencing lungeing activities
2. Lunge a horse	2.1 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour to introduce lungeing to inexperienced horses 2.2 Introduce horse to lungeing exercise using safe techniques according to supervisor instructions 2.3 Maintain safe lungeing position 2.4 Use clear and appropriate lungeing cues with horse 2.5 Use safe lungeing progression in walk, trot and canter in both directions

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	2.6 Monitor horse health and welfare during lunging, ceasing lunging activity and reporting abnormalities to supervisor
3. Care for horse after lunging	3.1 Cool horse down after exercise according to supervisor instructions 3.2 Remove, clean and check lunging gear for signs of wear or damage 3.3 Report irregularities with horse or gear to supervisor

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 clear language, correct concepts and industry terminology to ensure clarity of meaning when reporting information and requesting assistance with lunging activities
Navigate the world of work	Take responsibility for following workplace procedures, including safe work, safe horse handling practices, and animal welfare requirements, in own role and work area
Get the work done	- Assemble equipment and plan and sequence lunging activities, taking safety and risk factors into consideration - Provide and communicate solutions to a range of predictable problems associated with introducing horses to lunging

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU301 Introduce horses to lunge exercise	Not applicable	New unit	No equivalent unit

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 ACMEQU301 Introduce horses to lunge exercise

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Performance Evidence

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

There must be evidence that the individual has introduced at least two compliant and manageable horses to lungeing, including:

- identifying risks associated with lungeing horses
- selecting, fitting and introducing lungeing gear to horses
- controlling and positioning the horse during walk, trot and canter:
 - in both directions whilst safely adjusting lunge lead and whip position
 - using lunge whip and handler body position to encourage inexperienced horses to start, stop and follow the track during lunge exercise
 - using voice to control tempo and speed of inexperienced horses during lungeing exercise
 - selecting and performing lungeing techniques that encourage inexperienced horses to maintain speed, tempo, gait and position on the track
- effectively communicating with supervisor, including raising issues of concern related to lunge exercise
- monitoring basic horse health and welfare during lunge exercise and reporting abnormalities to supervisor
- applying correct care of horse and equipment after lungeing.

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:

- safe horse handling techniques, zones and positioning techniques to encourage inexperienced horses to lunge
- types and purpose of personal protective equipment (PPE) suitable for lunge exercise
- features of a safe work area to lunge horses
- techniques for introducing inexperienced horses to lungeing

- horse learning theory that can be applied to lungeing activities
- purpose and reasons for lungeing horses
- types, purpose, correct fit and use of horse lungeing gear
- common horse behaviour, social traits, vices and responses related to lungeing horses
- potential hazards and risks associated with lungeing horses:
 - horse behaviour
 - other horses in vicinity
 - handler skills and techniques
 - surface variations
 - area not fenced or confined
- symptoms and signs of illness and injury during and after lungeing
- styles of lunge exercise and exercise routines
- types of working gear required for lungeing horses
- types of injury that may be sustained during lunge exercise
- animal welfare practices in relation to lunge exercise.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace fenced arena or round yard, or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various compliant and manageable horses (inexperienced in lungeing) assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - appropriate tack for individual, horse and lungeing activities
 - PPE, correctly fitted and applicable to lungeing exercise, 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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