



Australian Government

ACMEQU307 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 5.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to introduce a horse, that is inexperienced on the lunge, to lunging exercises by using techniques, routines and gear to control and direct a horse to lunge calmly.

This unit applies to individuals who work under broad direction in industries involving horses. They apply knowledge of horse behaviour and technical skills with discretion and judgement to educate horses to lunge calmly in environments that may include round yards and fenced exercise arenas.

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

The prerequisite unit of competency for this unit is:

- ACMEQU220 Lunge educated horses.

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

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
ACMEQU220 Lunge educated horses	ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely

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 introduce a horse to lunge	1.1 Select horse to be introduced to lungeing, and develop a suitable program, in consultation with client or supervisor, if required 1.2 Select suitable lungeing area, identify hazards, and assess and control risks related to educating horse to lunge and lungeing environment 1.3 Select methods and techniques for introducing inexperienced horses to lungeing 1.4 Select and fit personal protective equipment (PPE) 1.5 Select and check lungeing equipment and fit lungeing gear to horse according to individual horse and training requirements
2. Introduce a horse to lunge	2.1 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour to introduce lungeing to inexperienced horse using clear and appropriate cues with horse 2.2 Introduce horse to lungeing exercise using safe and low stress techniques, using appropriate lunge rein techniques 2.3 Use safe lungeing progression in walk, trot and canter in both directions 2.4 Lunge horse to develop horse suppleness, balance, rhythm and confidence according to lungeing program 2.5 Respond appropriately to horse drifting and falling in or out 2.6 Maintain safe and appropriate position of self in relation to horse throughout lunge session 2.7 Monitor horse behaviour and performance during lungeing, and respond to signs of injury or distress according to workplace procedures
3. Perform post-exercise procedures	3.1 Remove gear from horse and check horse for signs of injury 3.2 Cool down, hose and groom horse after exercise according to horse requirements and workplace procedures 3.3 Record and report on horse performance and irregular horse behaviour, signs of distress or injury during and after exercise 3.4 Check and maintain gear before storage, and report gear quality and maintenance issues according to workplace requirements

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 industry terminology to describe and report horse lunging activities
Numeracy	Measure and calculate time, temperature, distance, ratio and speed

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU307 Introduce horses to lunge exercise	ACMEQU301 Introduce horses to lunge exercise	Prerequisite requirements changed Major changes to all sections of the unit	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>

Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU307 Introduce horses to lunge exercise

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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 introduced and trained at least two horses that are inexperienced on the lunge, to lunge calmly and consistently on a lunge rein across the three gaits (walk, trot and canter) in a round yard or another suitable enclosed area.

For each horse and lunging activity, the individual must have:

- identified at least three hazards, and assessed and controlled associated risks, including those occurring in the lunging environment
- used safe and low stress horse handling techniques
- selected, checked and correctly fitted personal protective equipment (PPE)
- selected, correctly fitted and introduced appropriate lunging gear and equipment to horses, including:
 - single lunge rein
 - lunge whip
 - lunge roller or saddle
 - bridle or lunge cavesson
- controlled and positioned the horse during walk, trot and canter:
 - in both directions whilst safely adjusting own position, lunge rein and whip position
 - using voice, handler body position, lunge rein and lunge whip to encourage inexperienced horses to start, stop and follow the track during lunge exercise
- selected and applied lunging techniques that encourage inexperienced horses to maintain speed, tempo, gait and position on the track
- monitored basic horse health and behaviour during lunge exercise, and responded to signs of distress or injury according to workplace procedures
- carried out post-exercise care of horses, including warm down or cool down using at least one of the following:
 - hand walking
 - hosing

- grooming techniques
- cleaned horse gear and equipment according to workplace instructions and manufacturer instructions
- updated exercise program records and reported horse performance and condition.

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 and low stress horse handling techniques, safe zones and positioning techniques of handler to encourage inexperienced horses to lunge
- types and purpose of PPE suitable for lunge exercise
- features of a safe environment to lunge horses
- horse learning theory that can be applied to lunging activities
- purpose and reasons for lunging horses
- techniques for introducing inexperienced horses to lunging
- types, purpose, correct fit and use of appropriate horse lunging gear and equipment, including:
 - single lunge rein
 - lunge whip
- common horse behaviour, social traits, vices and responses related to lunging horses
- potential hazards and risks associated with lunging horses, including:
 - horse behaviour
 - other horses in vicinity
 - handler skills and techniques
 - distractions and phenomena that may unsettle horses
- considerations for selection of lunging environments, including:
 - suitable size
 - suitable fence and gate, and fencing hazards
 - surface, including type and depth, level and footing
- types of injury that may be sustained during lunge exercise
- signs of distress and injury that may arise during and after lunging
- styles of lunge exercise and exercise routines
- horse welfare considerations related to exercise, including:
 - • weather, including wind and temperature
 - • fatigue and stress
 - • health status, including current injuries
- workplace horse exercise and condition reporting systems and practices.

Assessment Conditions

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

- physical conditions:
 - a round yard or other enclosed area suitable for lungeing
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - live horses specified in the performance evidence (that are inexperienced in lungeing prior to the assessment of the individual), that have also been assessed as suitable for the assessment of this unit and the individual being assessed
 - appropriate horse gear, and equipment suitable for lungeing tasks specified in the performance evidence, including PPE
 - workplace reporting and recording formats
- specifications:
 - workplace procedures and instructions or program for educating horses to lunge.

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

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