



Australian Government

ACMEQU311 Prepare horses for presentation at an event

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 prepare a compliant and manageable horse for presentation at an event. Events may include competitions, shows or commercial sales. It involves washing, grooming and coat trimming horses, and cleaning and fitting horse gear.

This unit applies to workers who apply technical knowledge and skills with discretion and judgment to interpret horse presentation standards and prepare horses for events. They work under broad direction and may have responsibility for highly valuable animals. Work environments may include wash bays, grooming bays, yards and stables, which may also be at competition, event and sales venues.

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

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>

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1. Plan presentation requirements	1.1 Confirm the event or activity, horse required and specific presentation requirements and/or standards 1.2 Check horse is fit for event, and respond to any abnormalities 1.3 Confirm event location and specific timings, and develop action plan to complete grooming tasks and final preparation of horse 1.4 Identify hazards and assess and control risks related to general horse and equipment preparation 1.5 Select and correctly fit personal protective equipment (PPE) required for horse handling and horse gear and equipment preparation 1.6 Select, check and clean horse gear and equipment required 1.7 Fit and adjust gear to horse prior to event 1.8 Prepare event grooming tools, equipment and products
2. Wash horse	2.1 Select and correctly fit PPE required for horse washing 2.2 Identify hazards and assess and control risks related to leading, restraining and washing horse in wash bay 2.3 Secure horse in wash bay and safely wash according to requirements, taking care around horse head and ears 2.4 Dry horse using appropriate scraping and drying tools 2.5 Safely remove horse from wash bay
3. Groom horse to presentation standard	3.1 Identify hazards, and assess and control risks relating to restraining and grooming horse 3.2 Select and correctly fit PPE required for grooming 3.3 Select and prepare required grooming equipment according to competition or horse breed standard requirements 3.4 Position, secure and groom horse using safe and low stress techniques 3.5 Groom to remove loose hair and encourage the coat to lay flat, and detangle mane and tail 3.6 Identify signs of horse illness, injury or abnormal behaviour during grooming, and action as required 3.7 Clean, store and maintain grooming tools and PPE
4. Trim horse to maintain established presentation	4.1 Confirm trimming requirements according to breed standard,

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style	competition rules and horse welfare requirements 4.2 Identify hazards and assess and control risks related to restraining and trimming horse 4.3 Select and correctly fit PPE required for coat trimming 4.4 Select and use appropriate horse trimming tools safely to trim horse to required style and standards 4.5 Apply safe handling and positioning techniques when using scissors and blades around horse 4.6 Complete trim, and clean and maintain trimming tools
5. Plait mane and tail using low stress practices	5.1 Confirm style of plaiting and number of plaits to be created 5.2 Identify hazards and assess and control the risks related to restraining and plaiting horse 5.3 Select and correctly fit PPE required for plaiting 5.4 Select and use appropriate horse plaiting tools to safely plait horse according to required style, standards and horse welfare requirements 5.5 Apply safe handling and positioning techniques when using scissors, needles and other blades around horses 5.6 Divide mane and plait down to produce plaits of even thickness 5.7 Run up plaits and forelock in required style, and secure 5.8 Use grooming techniques and products to encourage mane and tail hair to lay flat 5.9 Groom and braid tail as required to meet presentation standard
6. Complete final grooming and fit horse gear	6.1 Apply grooming products to highlight coat and other horse features as required 6.2 Dress hooves to comply with event requirements 6.3 Fit gear to horse required for event, and present horse to handler, rider and/or driver 6.4 Complete final check and wipe over

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
Reading	Interpret horse breed grooming standards and grooming product labels
Numeracy	Estimate and calculate quantity, volume and ratio
Oral communication	- Use active listening and questioning to clarify instructions - Use industry terminology to describe horse breed or grooming standards and grooming techniques

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU311 Prepare horses for presentation at an event	ACMEQU211 Prepare horses for competition, presentation or sale	Unit code AQF level indicator changed from 2 to 3 to reflect revised unit outcomes 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 ACMEQU311 Prepare horses for presentation at an event

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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:

- prepared at least one consistent and manageable horse for presentation for two separate events that reflect recognised horse breed and/or association requirements

or

- prepared at least two consistent and manageable horses for presentation for one event that reflects recognised horse breed and/or association requirements

or

- prepared at least two horses for a commercial sale event that requires horses to be turned out to meet breed standards.

For each of the presentations, the individual must have:

- confirmed the horse event presentation requirements and competition rules, and planned the tasks required to prepare the horse
- identified at least three hazards, and assessed and controlled associated risks
- selected, checked, fitted, used and maintained gear and equipment, including personal protective equipment (PPE)
- washed, groomed, coat-trimmed and geared-up horse to meet event requirements using safe and low stress horse handling practices, including horse and handler positioning.

In addition to the above, for at least one horse, the individual must have:

- performed a minor trim of horse hair using at least two of the following:
 - scissors
 - small trimming clippers
 - razors

- thinning combs
- blades
- demonstrated horse mane and/or tail techniques to even out the thickness and length of manes and/or tails
- selected and applied shampoos, other grooming products and/or makeup according to coat type and presentation requirements
- checked horse for signs of ill health and injury.

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:

- typical event procedures for two different horse events organised by recognised horse associations
- grooming requirements and techniques for at least two different horse breed standards and related to event or competition requirements
- horse gear requirements and fitting techniques for at least two different horse breed standards and related event or competition requirements
- hazard identification, risk assessment and control for horse washing, grooming and coat trimming
- safe and low stress horse handling techniques, practices and zones for grooming horses
- types and purpose of PPE for grooming horses
- purpose and use of horse grooming tools and products, including:
 - manufacturer instructions, including safety and pre-operational checks
 - cleaning and maintenance requirements
 - potential impact on horse welfare
- handling and removal of waste products related to horse grooming and presentation, including consideration of environmental and legislative requirements
- signs of horse distress during washing and grooming
- potential biosecurity and horse health hazards at competition and sale venues, and ways to minimise their risk
- horse health checks prior to participation in competitions, events or sales, including infectious diseases
- mane styles, including rosette and sewn, and tail braiding or plaiting
- breed standard or competition requirements and techniques for trimming to enhance the basic conformation of the horse, including:
 - thickness and length of manes and tails using manual pulling and thinning blades
 - measure and trim of tail length and fitting of false tail
 - hog manes
 - bridle path and wither
 - jaw line, muzzle, outside ear, leg and feathers
- breed standard or competition requirements and application techniques for:
 - face and/or leg makeup to enhance features and remove stains

- hoof dressings
- quarter marks that enhance horse conformation.

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
 - horse gear, grooming products, tools and equipment suitable for the tasks specified in the performance evidence
 - workplace recording and reporting formats
- specifications:
 - documented presentation requirements or standards for the horse events selected in the performance evidence
 - workplace procedures and instructions for grooming horses for presentation at events.

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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