



Australian Government

ACMEQU425 Provide horse clipping services

Release: 1

ACMEQU425 Provide horse clipping services

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 clip horses according to agreed client requirements. It also covers the care and maintenance of clipping equipment.

The unit applies to individuals who perform clipping and grooming services for clients. They work autonomously, take responsibility for their own work and apply specialised horse grooming knowledge and skills to provide and communicate solutions for predictable and unpredictable problems.

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.

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>
1. Establish client requirements and horse characteristics	1.1 Confirm horse clipping requirements, style and expectations with client 1.2 Clarify information about horse behaviour, previous experience and reaction to clipping, and potential safety risks

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.3 Determine need for sedation to carry out clipping, considering health and safety requirements and equine welfare and comfort 1.4 Follow appropriate protocols and relevant state/territory legislation relating to sedation, and advise client to organise with a registered veterinarian, if sedation is assessed as necessary 1.5 Determine a clipping plan, taking into consideration client, horse and safety requirements and, if required, support from an assistant
2. Prepare for horse clipping	2.1 Confirm horse is clean prior to clipping 2.2 Select equipment to meet clip requirements and as an alternative to sedation where appropriate and undertake equipment pre-operational safety checks 2.3 Select safe area for clipping and appropriate horse restraints 2.4 Select and use personal protective equipment appropriate for activity
3. Clip horse	3.1 Approach, handle and restrain horse using safe, low stress techniques according to animal welfare and health and safety requirements 3.2 Plait horse mane or tail as required 3.3 Mark up area to be clipped for partial clips as required 3.4 Accustom horse to clippers prior to commencing, and touch sensitive areas before clipping 3.5 Use appropriate equipment and technique to clip horse coat and specific body areas 3.6 Recognise when horse behaviour indicates a potential safety risk requiring support of an assistant or to discontinue clipping 3.7 Monitor and maintain health and safety for self and others, and horse welfare, during the activity
4. Finalise horse clipping	4.1 Brush, hose or wash horse at completion of clipping to remove loose hair, and apply conditioning products if required 4.2 Care for horse after clipping according to horse needs and workplace practice 4.3 Clean and maintain clipping equipment in a condition appropriate for future use and according to manufacturer instructions 4.4 Clean and tidy work area and dispose of waste, taking into

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	consideration health and safety, environmental and biosecurity requirements 4.5 Hand over horse to client and complete records and transactions

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
Writing	Complete workplace documentation using industry terminology in print-based and/or digital format
Oral communication	Use appropriate tone, pace, and listening and questioning techniques to clarify information
Numeracy	Use mathematical concepts to calculate or estimate time and cost

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU425 Provide horse clipping services	Not applicable	The unit has been created to address a skill or task required by industry that is not covered by an existing unit	Newly created

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 ACMEQU425 Provide horse clipping services

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 5.0.

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 clipped at least four horses, and worked with at least two clients, within industry accepted timeframes, including:

- performed a full body clip, including legs, head and ears on one horse
- performed two partial clips on two different horses selected from:
 - Hunter clip – all hair removed except for legs and with or without saddle pad
 - Blanket clip – hair left on legs and back (exercise sheet)
 - Trace or Chaser clip – hair left on back, head and legs
 - Irish clip – remove hair from areas around neck and armpits – where horse sweats
 - Bib or Strip clip – remove small amount of hair from front of neck and chest
- performed an artistic clip on one horse
- demonstrated safe, low stress horse handling techniques with each horse.

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:

- health and safety hazards and controls when working in close proximity with horses, including:
 - risks to horses, self and others, and how these are controlled
 - unpredictable behaviour of horses
 - use of safe, low stress handling techniques
 - electrical hazards relating to cables and water
 - reasons for removal of feed and water
 - selection and use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - hygiene and infection control

- zoonotic and infectious diseases, including those caused by bacteria, fungi, parasites and viruses
- responsibilities under relevant health and safety and animal welfare legislation and codes of practice
- principles and practices of horse clipping, including:
 - reasons for clipping horses
 - methods of restraint used during clipping
 - how to introduce horses to clipping
 - strategies for dealing with horses that are difficult to clip, including sedation, support from an assistant, selection of clipping equipment
 - techniques for different weather conditions, including cold weather, high winds and extreme heat
 - importance of efficient clipping and industry accepted timeframes
- clipping techniques, including:
 - for specific body parts and areas of varying hair growth
 - how to clip awkward areas and leg lines
 - clipping a bridle path, feathers, ears and jowl
 - injuries relating to clipping for horses and handler/groomer
- types of clips and when they are used, including:
 - full body clip
 - Hunter clip – all hair removed except for legs and with or without saddle pad
 - Blanket clip – hair left on legs and back (exercise sheet)
 - Trace or Chaser clip – hair left on back, head and legs
 - Irish clip – remove hair from areas around neck and armpits – where horse sweats
 - Bib or Strip clip – remove small amount of hair from front of neck and chest
 - artistic clips
- techniques for manes and tails:
 - laying, plaiting or pulling a mane
 - plaiting, trimming or pulling a tail
- issues relating to equine sedation (chemical restraint), including:
 - state/territory legislative requirements relating to the administration of sedation to equines
 - role and responsibilities of registered veterinarians and clients
 - consideration of equine status – breed, age, condition, pain, pregnancy, stallions
 - time to take effect and duration period
 - equine behaviour and responses to sedation and recovery
 - sedation risks to equine and handlers
- clipping equipment and products, including:
 - types of clippers, blades and clipper oil
 - shampoo, oils, conditioning and finishing products
 - electrical cords and safety products

- horse rugs, blankets or protection against weather and insects
- use and maintenance of clipping and trimming equipment
- strategies for dealing with clients, including:
 - clarifying and confirming clipping requirements and costs where appropriate
 - recording clipping plans and outcomes
 - providing handover or follow-up information and support.

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 as specified in the performance evidence and assessed as suitable for the experience and skills of the individual
 - horse gear and restraints
 - clipping tools and blades
 - shampoo, oils, conditioning and finishing products
 - electrical cords and safety products
 - horse rugs, blankets or protection
 - PPE appropriate for handler and activity
- specifications:
 - manufacturer operating instructions for clipping equipment
 - workplace health and safety policies and procedures, and environmental, biosecurity and animal welfare legislations and codes of practice
- relationships:
 - clients.

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

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