



Australian Government

ACMFAR309 Select and fit shoes for normal healthy equines

Release: 1

ACMFAR309 Select and fit shoes for normal healthy equines

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 safely fit standard shoes for equines with feet in healthy condition or presenting with common faults and defects, which can be treated with minor shoe modifications of pre-manufactured shoes.

The unit applies to individuals who use specialised knowledge and technical skills to perform farriery services across different equine industry sectors.

No occupational licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

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

Nil

Unit Sector

Farriery (FAR)

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. Examine an equine and condition of its feet	1.1 Observe equine gait and conformation to identify common faults and defects or signs of lameness 1.2 Use safe handling techniques and restrain equines in a way that reduces stress and alarm and minimises risk to the equine and handlers 1.3 Adopt a working position that maintains the comfort and safety of the equine, the farrier and assistants 1.4 Use appropriate tools to safely remove shoes and clean hoof of debris 1.5 Examine the shoes and assess the wear pattern for further trimming and shoeing 1.6 Report any conditions requiring higher level treatment by a veterinarian or other specialist 1.7 Change the shoeing plan if the condition of the feet warrants
2. Trim and prepare feet	2.1 Trim and prepare feet to achieve balance, level and shape, and to correctly identify foot defects without injury to the feet of the equine 2.2 Monitor work to ensure foot preparation meets quality outcomes
3. Fit shoes	3.1 Select tools needed to fit shoes 3.2 Select the type and size of shoe, and modify to fit individual equine hoof 3.3 Shape shoes to incorporate any extra functionality identified in shoeing plan 3.4 Fit shoes and assess the need for any final adjustments 3.5 Make final adjustments to the shape and size of the shoe
4. Attach shoes and finish shoeing process	4.1 Select suitable tools and nails for attaching and finishing the job 4.2 Attach shoe safely, securely and in the correct position 4.3 Finish the hoof and check the welfare of the equine 4.4 Check correct fit of shoe by inspecting the shoe with feet on and off the ground and trotting the equine 4.5 Identify any signs of lameness by walking and/or trotting the

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	equine 4.6 Advise clients, carers or other specialists of actions taken and future foot care requirements 4.7 Maintain service records according to workplace procedures 4.8 Dispose of waste material safely according to workplace hygiene and biosecurity procedures

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	Record specifications and shoe plans for individual equines accurately in workplace documentation
Numeracy	Use measuring devices and take measurements accurately
Navigate the world of work	Take responsibility for adherence to workplace procedures and codes of practice, including work health and safety, animal welfare and biosecurity requirements, relating to own role and work area
Interact with others	Follow accepted communication practices and protocols for reporting information to clients and specialists using industry-standard terminology and concepts suitable for audience
Get the work done	- Observe and examine equines, using safe handling techniques, to determine foot and shoe care requirements - Plan, sequence and prioritise tasks and assemble equipment to make shoes to meet specific requirements of equines

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMFAR309 Select and fit shoes for normal	ACMFAR309A Fit shoes	Updated to meet Standards for Training	Equivalent

healthy equines	for normal healthy horses	Packages Minor changes to clarify intent of unit Use of the term equine instead of horse to reflect scope of work	unit
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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 ACMFAR309 Select and fit shoes for normal healthy equines

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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 assessed the shoeing needs and fitted shoes to at least two normal, healthy equines, including:

- observing gait and conformation and examining shoe wear to identify individual needs of an equine
- using safe handling techniques and monitoring safety risks throughout shoe fitting process
- trimming and preparing individual equine feet
- selecting, shaping and fitting shoes to meet requirements of individual equines
- discussing and reporting shoeing options with clients, carers, veterinarians or other specialists, including conditions requiring higher-level treatment
- assessing quality of outcome using pre-manufactured shoes, with minor multiple variations
- providing advice on future hoof care requirements
- maintaining records of service provided.

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:

- principles and practices of shoeing equines:
 - anatomical features of the lower limb and foot of an equine and applicable biomechanical functions
 - conformation, normal gait and abnormalities of gait, and how the farrier can alleviate a range of common faults, defects and foot problems through shoeing
 - effects of trimming on the stance and action of an equine
 - limits of safe trimming and why these must not be exceeded
- types of shoes and reasons for use of particular shoes

- types of orthopaedic shoes and modifications that may be made to address the needs of an equine exhibiting minor faults and defects
- key principles of animal welfare legislation as applied to farriery services
- safe work practices, including:
 - identifying hazards and assessing and controlling risks
 - manual handling
 - using personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - safe zones and equine handling techniques.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately reflects performance in a real workplace setting
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various healthy, compliant and manageable equines, assessed as suitable for the skill and experience of the individual or appropriate simulation
 - measuring and recording tools
 - appropriate tack for horse and/or other equine and activity
 - tools, equipment and materials for modifying and fitting horseshoes
 - PPE correctly fitted and applicable for tasks for 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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