



Australian Government

ACMFAR312 Use farriery techniques to meet special needs of equines

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 prepare the feet of an equine to address particular needs and fabricate and apply an appropriate shoe to alleviate problems.

The unit applies to individuals who have a moderate level of experience handling equines and 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
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<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Determine special shoeing needs of individual equines	1.1 Identify hoof defects that may be fixed by a farrier 1.2 Determine the types of orthopaedic or therapeutic shoes or modifications that may fix the problem 1.3 Identify potential problems that can be remedied by a farrier 1.4 Determine the foot care needs of foals and young equines or other equines 1.5 Report conditions requiring higher-level treatment to other farriers or veterinarians
2. Arrange remedial actions	2.1 Determine course of action and establish treatment regime in consultation with a veterinarian 2.2 Discuss the implications of proposed actions 2.3 Fabricate or modify remedial or orthopaedic and therapeutic shoes
3. Trim and repair feet	3.1 Handle equines safely according to work health and safety practices, and monitor behaviour to reduce risks to equine, handlers and self 3.2 Trim and prepare feet without injury to equine feet 3.3 Identify and perform hoof reconstruction procedures according to shoe plan 3.4 Check work to ensure foot preparation meets quality outcomes
4. Fit remedial shoes	4.1 Select tools for fitting shoes 4.2 Shape remedial shoes according to shoe plan 4.3 Fit shoes to fore and hind feet and assess the need for any final adjustments 4.4 Make final adjustments to the shape and size of the shoe 4.5 Monitor risks and maintain safety of equine, self and others throughout the procedure
5. Attach shoes and finish shoeing process	5.1 Select tools and nails suitable for attaching and clenching shoes 5.2 Attach shoe safely, securely and in the correct position 5.3 Finish the hoof and assess the finished job and the welfare of the equine 5.4 Identify any signs of lameness by trotting the equine

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	5.5 Advise of actions taken and future foot care requirements 5.6 Maintain service records according to workplace practices

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 key information in workplace procedures and specialist instructions relevant to addressing special shoeing and foot care needs of equines
Writing	Record specifications and shoe plans for individual equines with special needs accurately in workplace documentation
Numeracy	Use measuring devices and take measurements accurately
Oral communication	Use clear language, accurate concepts and industry terminology to ensure clarity of meaning when reporting and requesting information
Navigate the world of work	Take responsibility for adherence to workplace procedures and codes of practice, including safety, animal welfare and biosecurity requirements, relating to own role and work area
Interact with others	- Work as part of a team with other professionals, including veterinarians - Follow accepted communication practices and protocols for reporting information to clients and specialists
Get the work done	- Observe and examine equines systematically using structured problem-solving processes to determine requirements to meet special needs of equines - Assess quality of outcomes to prepare future foot care plans and advice

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current	Code and title	Comments	Equivalence
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version	previous version		status
ACMFAR312 Use farriery techniques to meet special needs of equines	ACMFAR312A Accommodate special needs of particular horses through farriery techniques	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages Changes to title and performance criteria to clarify intent of unit Use of the term equine instead of horse to reflect scope of work	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 ACMFAR312 Use farriery techniques to meet special needs of 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 planned, selected and fitted appropriate shoes to at least two equines (or suitable simulations) with specific needs, including those exhibiting chronic lameness, exhibiting damage or engaged in particular sporting or working activities.

For each equine this must cover:

- assessing the shoeing and trimming needs
- carrying out a lameness assessment
- discussing shoeing options with clients
- reporting conditions requiring higher-level treatment to other farrier or to veterinarians involved with hoof care
- fabricating or modifying a range of remedial or orthopaedic and therapeutic shoes to assist in the correction or alleviation of a problem, including modern acrylic therapeutic aids, sole packs and hospital plates
- 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 special needs farriery techniques, including:
 - conformation, normal gait and abnormalities of gait and how the farrier can alleviate a range of severe faults and foot problems through shoeing
 - effects of trimming on the stance and action of the equine
 - anatomical features of the lower limb and foot of the equine and applicable biomechanical functions
 - limits of safe trimming and why these must not be exceeded

- relevant legislation and codes of practice and personal responsibilities related to work health and safety and animal welfare
- special requirements of foals and young equines
- types of orthopaedic and therapeutic shoes and modifications that may be made to address the needs of an equine with particular needs
- key principles of animal welfare legislation as applied to farriery services
- safe work practices, including:
 - assessing and controlling risks to equines and handlers
 - safe zones and equine handling techniques
 - safe use of restraints.

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 equines with special needs, assessed as suitable to the skill and experience level of the individual, or appropriate simulations such as equine cadaver legs
 - forge and welding facilities
 - equipment, tools and materials needed to make shoes for equines
 - appropriate tack for equine and activity
 - personal protective equipment correctly fitted and applicable to 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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<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>