



**Australian Government**

# **ACMFAR402 Fit shoes to alleviate moderate abnormalities and defects in equines**

**Release: 1**

# ACMFAR402 Fit shoes to alleviate moderate abnormalities and defects in equines

## Modification History

| Release   | Comments                                                                                |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Release 1 | This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 2.0. |

## Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to fit shoes to equines that exhibit a range of common faults and defects where the level of assessment and remedial technique is regarded as moderate. It includes the shaping, fitting and modification of shoes, including shoes to improve balance, ease break over, sole relief and various forms of clip placement.

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

Workplace 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.

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

## 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> |
| 1. Identify shoeing needs                        | 1.1 Handle equines to reduce stress and alarm, monitor behaviour to                                    |

| <b>Elements</b>                                  | <b>Performance Criteria</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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| of individual equines                            | <p>eliminate risks to equine or handlers according to workplace practices</p> <p>1.2 Identify, fit and use personal protective equipment according to health and safety in the workplace procedures</p> <p>1.3 Observe gait and conformation, including trotting the equine in different patterns to identify any signs of lameness</p> <p>1.4 Observe and identify moderate faults and defects that may be alleviated</p> <p>1.5 Adopt a working position that maintains comfort of the equine and ensures comfort and personal safety</p> <p>1.6 Use appropriate tools to remove shoes, ensuring no damage is caused to the hooves</p> <p>1.7 Clean hooves of foreign bodies in a safe handling manner to facilitate examination of the hoof</p> <p>1.8 Examine the shoe and assess implications of the wear pattern</p> <p>1.9 Report any conditions requiring higher-level treatment by a veterinarian or other specialist</p> <p>1.10 Amend the shoeing plan, taking into account conditions of the hooves not previously identifiable</p> |
| 2. Trim and prepare hooves                       | <p>2.1 Use farriery tools to trim and prepare hooves to achieve balance, level and shape, and to correct any identified hoof defects</p> <p>2.2 Conduct trimming operations without injury to equine hooves</p> <p>2.3 Check work while in progress and on completion to ensure quality outcomes of hoof preparation have been achieved</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 3. Fit shoes                                     | <p>3.1 Make and/or select and modify the correct type, material and size of shoes according to shoeing plan</p> <p>3.2 Select suitable tools to fit shoes according to equine needs</p> <p>3.3 Shape selected shoes to incorporate any ancillary features as determined by the shoeing plan</p> <p>3.4 Fit shoes to fore and hind hooves and assess the need for any final adjustments</p> <p>3.5 Make final adjustments to the shape and size of the shoe and any ancillary features to achieve correct fit</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 4. Attach shoes and finish shoeing process       | <p>4.1 Select suitable tools and appropriate size nails for attaching and clenching shoes</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

| Elements                                         | Performance Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i> | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                  | <p>4.2 Attach the shoe safely, securely and in the correct position</p> <p>4.3 Finish the hoof using clenching process, and assess the finished job and welfare of the equine</p> <p>4.4 Assess finished work to ensure the equine is more comfortable and the condition of the hoof is likely to improve</p> <p>4.5 Inform the responsible person of farriery procedures completed, and advise on future hoof care requirements and the welfare of the equine</p> <p>4.6 Update records of service according to workplace practices</p> |

## 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                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Record specifications and shoeing plans for individual equines accurately in workplace documentation</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Numeracy                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use measuring devices and take measurements accurately</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Navigate the world of work | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take responsibility for adherence to workplace procedures, including safety, animal welfare and infection control and biosecurity requirements, relating to own role and work area</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                      |
| Interact with others       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow accepted communication practices and protocols for reporting information to clients and equine specialists using industry-standard terminology and concepts suitable for audience</li> <li>Participate in conversations providing firm and clear information relating to equine health and animal welfare issues</li> </ul> |
| Get the work done          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Observe and examine equines, using safe handling techniques, to determine hoof and shoe care requirements</li> <li>Plan, sequence and prioritise tasks and assemble equipment to make shoes to meet specific requirements of equines</li> </ul>                                                                                    |

## Unit Mapping Information

| Code and title current version                                                 | Code and title previous version                                         | Comments                                                                                                                 | Equivalence status |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| ACMFAR402 Fit shoes to alleviate moderate abnormalities and defects in equines | ACMFAR310 Fit shoes to alleviate moderate faults and defects in equines | Changes to title and code changed to reflect AQF alignment and scope of work.<br><br>Changes to assessment requirements. | 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 ACMFAR402 Fit shoes to alleviate moderate abnormalities and defects in equines

## Modification History

| Release   | Comments                                                                                |
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## Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has:

- assessed shoeing needs to meet requirements of individual equines
- trimmed and prepared hooves and fitted (fore and hind) shoes to at least one live equine and one set of cadaver legs displaying moderate abnormalities and defects
- handmade the following shoes for an equine exhibiting moderate abnormalities or defects of the hoof:
  - bar shoe
  - lateral extension
- modified at least two of the following manufactured shoes for an equine exhibiting moderate abnormalities or defects of the hoof:
  - onion heeled shoe with appropriate stack
  - rolled toe
  - rocker toe
  - square toe shoe
  - quarter clips
- provided information and discussed options on hoof care treatments for at least two equines displaying moderate abnormalities and defects, with two clients and/or veterinarians
- maintained 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:

- equine anatomical features relevant to farrier services, including:
  - lower limb and hoof and their basic biomechanical functions

- conformation, normal gait and abnormalities of gait
- symptoms and presentation of moderate hoof conditions and problems, including:
  - interferences to movement of the hoof in flight
  - moderate cases of sheered heels, sidebone, ringbone, seedy toe
  - hoof deformities
- techniques to alleviate a range of moderate faults, defects and hoof problems through shoeing
- trimming techniques, including:
  - 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, reasons for use of particular shoes and fitting techniques
- types and purpose of orthopaedic shoes and modifications that may be made to address the needs of an equine exhibiting moderate faults and defects, including:
  - square toe for hind over reaching and forging
  - rolled toe shoes to ease and assist break over
  - quarter clips to assist shoe stabilisation, heavy work routines and turning and twisting
- referrals to veterinarians and/or other equine specialists
- restrictions on advice that can be given and avoiding perceptions of diagnostic or treatment advice which must be given by veterinarians
- key principles of animal welfare legislation as applied to farriery services
- safe work practices, including:
  - identifying hazards and assessing and controlling risks when interacting with equines in the workplace
  - manual handling
  - using personal protective equipment (PPE)
  - safe zones and equine handling techniques
  - hygiene, cleaning and infection control
  - safe waste handling and disposal.

## 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 compliant and manageable equines, assessed as suitable for the skill and experience of the individual, or appropriate simulations such as equine cadaver legs – with moderate faults and defects of the hoof or lower limb
  - measuring and recording tools
  - appropriate gear for equine and activity

- tools, equipment and materials for making and/or modifying and fitting shoes
- PPE correctly fitted and applicable to fitting shoes for individual
- relationships:
  - real clients and/or veterinarians or realistic scenarios or role play.

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.

## Links

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