



Australian Government

ACMFAR403 Fit shoes to alleviate severe abnormalities and defects in 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 2.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to fit shoes to equines that exhibit a range of severe abnormalities and defects where the level of assessment and remedial technique is regarded as severe. It includes shaping and fitting heart bar, straight bar and lateral extension hind shoes.

The unit applies to individuals who use knowledge and technical 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 of individual	1.1 Handle equines to reduce stress and alarm, monitor behaviour to eliminate risks to equine and handlers and use restraints and personal

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
equines	protection equipment according to workplace practices 1.2 Observe gait and conformation of the equine to identify severe faults and defects that may be alleviated 1.3 Adopt a working position that maintains comfort of the equine and ensures comfort and personal safety 1.4 Use appropriate tools to remove shoes, ensuring no damage is caused to the hooves 1.5 Clean hooves of foreign bodies in a safe handling manner to facilitate examination of the hoof 1.6 Examine the shoe and assess implications of the wear pattern 1.7 Report any conditions requiring higher-level investigation and/or treatment by a veterinarian or other equine specialist 1.8 Amend the shoeing plan, taking into account conditions of the hooves not previously identifiable
2. Trim and prepare hooves	2.1 Use farriery tools to trim and prepare hooves to achieve balance, level and shape and to correct any identified hoof defects 2.2 Conduct trimming operations without injury to the hooves of the equine 2.3 Check work while in progress and on completion to ensure quality outcomes of hoof mechanics and hoof preparation have been achieved
3. Fit shoes or other hoof protection	3.1 Select correct type, material and size of manufactured shoe and make modifications and/or hand make shoes according to shoeing plan 3.2 Select suitable tools to fit shoes or other hoof protection 3.3 Shape selected shoes to incorporate any ancillary features as determined by the shoeing plan 3.4 Fit shoes to fore and hind hooves and assess the need for any final adjustments 3.5 Make final adjustments to the shape and size of the shoe and ancillary features to achieve correct fit
4. Attach shoes and finish shoeing process	4.1 Select suitable tools and appropriate size nails for attaching and clenching shoes and/or securing other form of hoof protection 4.2 Attach the shoe or other hoof protection safely, securely and in the correct position 4.3 Finish the hoof according to specification and assess the finished job

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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>
	and the welfare of the equine 4.4 Assess finished job to ensure the equine is more comfortable and the condition of the hoof is likely to improve 4.5 Inform the responsible person of farriery procedures completed and advise on future hoof care requirements and welfare of the equine 4.6 Update records of service 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
Writing	Record specifications and shoe plans for individual equines accurately in workplace documentation
Numeracy	- Estimate, calculate, record and apply routine workplace measures to required tasks including measurements to assess shoe requirements - Use measuring devices to take measurements accurately
Navigate the world of work	Take responsibility for adherence to workplace requirements, including safety, animal welfare and infection control and biosecurity, relating to own role and work area
Interact with others	- Follow accepted communication practices and protocols for reporting information to clients and equine specialists using industry-standard terminology and concepts suitable for audience - Participate in conversations providing firm and clear advice relating to equine health and animal welfare issues
Get the work done	- Observe and examine equines, using safe handling techniques, to determine hoof 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
ACMFAR403 Fit shoes to alleviate severe abnormalities and defects in equines	ACMFAR311 Fit shoes to alleviate severe faults and defects in equines	Changes to title and code changed to reflect AQF alignment. Changes to clarify intent of unit. Changes to assessment requirements to reflect level 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 ACMFAR403 Fit shoes to alleviate severe abnormalities and defects in equines

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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 the shoeing needs of at least two equines exhibiting severe conditions of the hoof or lower limb
- trimmed and prepared hooves and fitted (fore and hind) shoes to at least one live equine and one set of cadaver legs displaying severe abnormalities and defects
- selected and modified manufactured shoes and/or hand made the following shoes:
 - straight bar shoe
 - heart bar and egg bar shoe
 - lateral extension hind shoe
- provided information and discussed options on hoof care treatments for at least two equines displaying severe 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 applicable biomechanical functions
 - conformation, normal gait and abnormalities of gait
- symptoms and presentation of severe cases of hoof conditions, including:
 - laminitis
 - founder
 - canker
 - fractured navicular or pedal bones
 - tendon lacerations

- suspensory rupture
- injuries caused by the shoe - capped elbow, overreach
- defective hooves - flat or twisted hoof; weak or low heels
- injuries caused by gait abnormalities
- limb or hoof diseases and injuries requiring protection and pressure relief
- ailments - surface puncture wounds, sand crack/grass cracks
- techniques to alleviate a range of severe 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, including:
 - straight bar shoe for stabilisation of hoof capsule, fitting of hospital plates, corns and pedal osteitis
 - heart bar and egg bar shoe
 - lateral extension hind shoe for sheared heel and conformational deviations to the lateral branch of the hind limbs
- types of orthopaedic shoes and modifications that may be made to address the needs of an equine exhibiting severe faults and defects including composite and synthetic hoof protection products
- referrals to veterinarians and/or other equine professionals
- 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 including equine comfort and wellbeing
- safe work practices, including:
 - identify hazards and control risks when interacting with equines
 - manual handling
 - using personal protective equipment
 - safe zones and equine handling techniques
 - hygiene, cleaning and disease control
 - safe waste handling and disposal.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or 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, and appropriate simulations such as equine cadaver legs – with severe faults and defects of the hoof or lower limb

- videos and/or case studies of equines with severe abnormalities and defects
- measuring and recording tools
- appropriate tack for equine and activity
- tools, equipment and materials for modifying and fitting shoes
- personal protective equipment correctly fitted and applicable to fitting shoes for individual equine
- relationships:
 - clients and/or veterinarians.

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

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<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>