



Australian Government

ACMFAR404 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 2.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to prepare the hooves of an equine to address particular needs and fabricate and apply an appropriate action (shoe or hoof protection) to alleviate problems.

The unit applies to individuals who have experience handling equines and who use specialised 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. Determine special needs of individual equines	1.1 Identify hoof defects or conformation problems that may be fixed or alleviated by a farrier

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.2 Determine the types of remedial, orthopaedic or therapeutic shoes or modifications, or hoof protection that may fix or alleviate the problem 1.3 Identify potential problems that can be remedied by a farrier 1.4 Determine the hoof care needs of foals and young equines 1.5 Report conditions requiring higher-level investigation or treatment to other farriers, veterinarians or equine professionals
2. Arrange remedial actions	2.1 Review equine symptoms and diagnostic images in consultation with the veterinarian 2.2 Determine course of action and establish treatment regimen in consultation with a veterinarian and/or other equine professional 2.3 Discuss and assess the implications of proposed actions 2.4 Fabricate or modify remedial or orthopaedic and therapeutic shoes and/or other hoof protection products
3. Trim and repair hooves	3.1 Handle equines safely and select personal protective equipment according to safe work practices, and monitor behaviour to reduce risks to equine, handlers and self 3.2 Trim and prepare hooves in a safe manner without injury to equine 3.3 Identify and perform hoof reconstruction procedures according to hoof care plan developed in consultation with veterinarian 3.4 Check work to ensure hoof preparation meets quality outcomes
4. Fit remedial shoes and/or hoof protection	4.1 Select tools, equipment and materials required for fitting remedial shoes and/or other hoof protection 4.2 Shape, fit and/or adjust remedial shoes and/or other hoof protection according to plan 4.3 Fit remedial shoes and/or other hoof protection 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 remedial shoes and/or other hoof protection 4.5 Monitor risks and maintain safety of equine, self and others

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	throughout the procedure
5. Attach shoes or hoof protection and finish shoeing process	5.1 Select tools and materials suitable for attaching and clenching shoes or securing other hoof protection 5.2 Attach shoe and/or other hoof protection 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 in a safe manner 5.5 Advise of actions taken and future hoof 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 instructions relevant to addressing special shoeing and hoof care needs of equines
Writing	Record specifications and hoof 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 and industry requirements, including safety, animal welfare and infection control and biosecurity, 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 equine professionals

Skill	Description
Get the work done	- Observe and examine equines systematically using structured problem-solving processes to determine requirements to meet their special needs - Assess quality of outcomes to prepare future hoof care plans and advice

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMFAR404 Use farriery techniques to meet special needs of equines	ACMFAR312 Use farriery techniques to meet special needs of equines	Code changed to reflect AQF alignment. Changes to performance criteria to clarify intent of unit and scope of work. 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 ACMFAR404 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 has:

- assessed and addressed the special needs of at least one foal or young equine
- assessed the needs of at least one equine (or realistic simulation) that:
 - exhibits acute or chronic lameness
 - presents with an injury or damage that can be addressed with farriery techniques
 - engages in a particular sporting, working or other activity
- read at least one diagnostic image in consultation with a veterinarian and discussed equine symptoms and options for treatment
- discussed options and hoof care requirements relating to one equine with special needs, from the list above, with a veterinarian, other equine professional or equine owner/carer (or realistic role play)
- hand forged and/or modified pre-manufactured remedial shoes or hoof protection products to address a special need and trimmed hooves and fitted the shoes to at least two live equines.

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
 - characteristics of various breeds
- special requirements of equines, including:
 - foals and young equines
 - small ponies
 - chronically lame or injured equines

- specialised heavy draught or carriage equines
- specific equine disciplines or sporting performances
- symptoms and presentation of faults and problems, including:
 - injuries caused by the shoe, including capped elbow, overreach
 - defective hooves, including flat or twisted hoof; weak or low heels
 - injuries caused by gait abnormalities
 - limb or hoof diseases and injuries requiring protection and pressure relief
 - foal developmental orthopaedic diseases
- techniques to alleviate a range of conformation and/or hoof faults, defects and problems
- 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 or hoof protection products, reasons for use and fitting techniques
- types of orthopaedic and therapeutic shoes or hoof protection products and modifications that may be made to address the needs of an equine with particular needs, including:
 - modern acrylic therapeutic aids
 - sole packs and hospital plates
 - other types of hoof protection
- 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
- safe work practices, including:
 - identify hazards and control risks when interacting with equines
 - manual handling
 - using personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - safe zones, equine handling techniques and use of restraints
 - 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 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, and/or appropriate simulations such as equine cadaver legs
 - videos and/or case studies of equines with severe abnormalities and defects
 - forge and welding facilities

- equipment, tools and materials needed to make or modify shoes for equines
- appropriate tack for equine and activity
- PPE correctly fitted and applicable to tasks for individual
- relationships:
 - real clients, veterinarians and/or equine professionals 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

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