



Australian Government

ACMFAR409 Select and fit shoes for normal healthy equines

Release: 1

ACMFAR409 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 2.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to safely fit standard shoes for equines with hooves 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 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. Examine an equine and condition of its hooves	1.1 Observe equine gait and conformation to identify common faults and defects or signs of lameness 1.2 Identify, select, fit and use personal protective equipment according to workplace procedures

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.3 Use safe handling techniques and control equines in a way that reduces stress and alarm and minimises risk to the equine and handlers 1.4 Adopt a working position that maintains the comfort and safety of the equine, the farrier and assistants 1.5 Use appropriate tools to safely remove shoes and clean hoof of debris 1.6 Examine the shoes and hoof and assess the wear pattern for trimming and shoeing 1.7 Report any conditions requiring higher level treatment by a veterinarian or other specialist 1.8 Change the shoeing plan dependent on the condition of the hooves
2. Trim and prepare hooves	2.1 Correctly identify hoof defects, trim and prepare hooves to achieve balance, level and shape without injury to equine hooves 2.2 Monitor work to ensure hoof preparation meets quality outcomes
3. Fit shoes	3.1 Select tools needed according to equine and situational requirements 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 materials 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 hooves on and off the ground 4.5 Identify any signs of lameness by walking and/or trotting the equine on firm ground 4.6 Advise clients, carers or other specialists of actions taken and

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	future hoof 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 shoe plans and measurements 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 health and safety, animal welfare and infection control requirements, relating to own role and work area
Interact with others	Follow accepted communication practices and protocols for reporting information to clients and equine professionals using industry-standard terminology and concepts suitable for audience
Get the work done	- Observe and examine equines, using safe handling techniques, to determine hoof care and shoeing 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
ACMFAR409 Select and fit shoes for normal healthy equines	ACMFAR309 Select and fit shoes for normal healthy equines	Coding of unit changed to reflect indicative AQF level 4. Minor changes to	Equivalent unit

		clarify intent of unit. Performance evidence requirements modified.	
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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 ACMFAR409 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 has:

- determined and selected appropriate shoe, and shaped and fitted pre-manufactured shoes to at least two cadaver fore and hind limbs (total of 4)
- assessed the shoeing needs and fitted shoes to at least two normal, healthy equines, including:
 - observed gait and conformation, and examined shoe and/or hoof wear to identify shoeing need
 - trimmed and prepared individual equine hooves using safe handling techniques
 - selected, shaped and fitted pre-manufactured shoes to meet individual requirements
 - provided information and discussed options on future hoof care requirements of each equine with relevant personnel.

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
 - techniques to alleviate a range of common 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
- tools for removing and fitting shoes and trimming hooves
- types of shoes, reasons for use of particular shoes and fitting techniques

- types of orthopaedic shoes and modifications that may be made to address the needs of an equine exhibiting minor faults and defects
- providing advice and referrals
- 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
 - 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:
 - equine fore and hind cadaver limbs
 - various healthy, compliant and manageable equines, assessed as suitable for the skill and experience of the individual
 - measuring and recording tools
 - appropriate tack for horse and/or other equine and activity
 - tools, equipment and materials for modifying and fitting shoes
 - 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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