



Australian Government

ACMPHR301 Care for performance horses

Release: 1

ACMPHR301 Care for performance horses

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 care for performance horses on a daily basis. It involves grooming, clipping, rugging, feeding, basic turnout and addressing potential risks associated with working with and around horses.

The unit applies to individuals who work in performance horse industry sectors caring for performance horses that are in work and housed within a stabled or paddocked setting. They carry out work under minimal supervision within industry guidelines and may include responsibility for highly valuable animals.

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

The prerequisite unit of competency for this unit is:

- ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely.

Note the following chain of prerequisites that also applies to this unit.

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely	ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour

Unit Sector

Performance Horse (PHR)

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. Maintain accommodation for performance horses	1.1 Determine the requirements of animal housing to meet environmental, security, physical and emotional needs of individual animals 1.2 Identify hazards, carry out a risk assessment and take steps to minimise risk to ensure safety of self, horse and others 1.3 Clean stables and yards, ensuring bedding is replaced and stable equipment is checked, maintained and stored according to workplace procedures 1.4 Maintain a safe environment and housing for horses consistent with work health and safety (WHS) and animal welfare legislation and guidelines 1.5 Maintain records according to workplace requirements and industry codes of practice
2. Groom and rug a horse	2.1 Select, use and maintain personal protective equipment (PPE) 2.2 Identify WHS standards, assess risks and implement suitable controls while handling horses 2.3 Wash and groom horses according to industry practices and workplace requirements 2.4 Fit and remove rugs and rug accessories according to the requirements of the individual horse
3. Clip a horse	3.1 Select and prepare clipping equipment 3.2 Prepare horse for clipping, ensuring minimal stress and discomfort 3.3 Clip horse according to instructions and safe work practices, under supervision 3.4 Clean equipment during and after clipping procedure, and store according to workplace requirements
4. Prepare horses for	4.1 Select and prepare horses for work according to stable roster

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
work	4.2 Identify and select horses by individual characteristics 4.3 Select correct working gear and check for wear and suitability 4.4 Fit working gear to horses safely 4.5 Care for horses after work according to industry practices and workplace requirements 4.6 Remove and clean working gear, report and action necessary repairs
5. Monitor and maintain a horse feeding program	5.1 Record and report variations to individual horse eating and drinking patterns 5.2 Monitor and report condition of horses 5.3 Prepare and distribute feed and feed supplements in line with feeding plan 5.4 Maintain and clean food storage areas and water supply, and keep free of contaminants 5.5 Adjust feeding practices, under supervision, to ensure horses are eating effectively and safely 5.6 Monitor and adjust feeding practices to ensure handler safety is maintained

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 textual information in workplace procedures, forms and work health and safety standards - Interpret key information in labels and instructions relating to performance horse care
Numeracy	Measure quantities and ratios relating to feeding and caring for performance horses
Navigate the world of work	Take responsibility for adherence to workplace safety, animal welfare, sustainability and biosecurity requirements relating to

Skill	Description
	area of responsibility and own role
Interact with others	Follow accepted practices and protocols for reporting information
Get the work done	- Plan resources and schedule tasks to care for performance horses under broad direction, taking responsibility for own work - Use discretion and judgement in the selection and use of available resources, and resolve predictable problems relating to the care of performance horses

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMPRH301 Care for performance horses	Not applicable	New unit	No 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 ACMPHR301 Care for performance horses

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Performance Evidence

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

There must be evidence that the individual has cared for at least two different compliant and manageable performance horses. The following points must be demonstrated for each horse:

- identifying hazards and assessing and controlling risks within limit of control and responsibility
- cleaning stable, yard, feed and water vessels and horse housing to maintain environment in accordance with work health and safety (WHS) and animal welfare legislation and guidelines
- wearing and using personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly
- using safe horse handling techniques
- washing, grooming and rugging and unrugging horse
- clipping a horse according to instructions and under supervision
- identifying and preparing horse for work according to stable routine
- fitting and removing working gear to horse:
 - selecting working gear for horse
 - fitting exercise boots and bandages
 - checking, cleaning and storing working gear
- checking horse condition and providing post exercise care
- feeding horse:
 - preparing hard feed
 - feeding stabled, yarded and paddocked horse
 - completing feeding records
- completing stable records.

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:

- key features of work health and safety (WHS) and animal welfare legislation
- risk identification, assessment and minimisation processes
- purpose and types of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- characteristics of horse behaviour and basic horse education
- horse identification processes
- stable design and layout
- current industry practices for stable hygiene and basic biosecurity requirements
- stable work routines and scheduling of duties
- equipment and techniques for:
 - washing horses
 - clipping
 - grooming
- types, fitting and application of rugs and rug accessories
- use, fitting, checking, maintaining and storing working gear
- post-exercise horse care
- applying and monitoring feeding plans:
 - feed types and supplements
 - normal and abnormal eating and drinking patterns and behaviours
 - behaviour of horses during group and individual feeding
 - safe practices for feeding horses in groups
- workplace recordkeeping practices and procedures.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - live, compliant and manageable performance horses assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly fitted and applicable to activity for the individual
 - feed and supplements for selected performance horses
 - horse grooming, washing and clipping equipment
 - tack and accessories required for caring for performance horses
 - cleaning materials and equipment
- specifications:

- workplace procedures and feeding schedule for selected performance horses
- reporting forms or supervisor for reporting.

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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