



Australian Government

AHCLSK218 Ride educated horses to carry out basic stock work

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 2.0.
Release 1	Initial release with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 1.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to handle and ride calm horses educated to muster and move livestock. It addresses the potential risks associated with working with and around horses and livestock.

The unit applies to individuals who have experience in riding horses assessed as calm, consistent and obedient. They work under general supervision, with some accountability for their own work, identifying and providing solutions to a limited range of predictable problems.

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 units of competency for this unit are:

- ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely
- ACMEQU206 Perform horse riding skills at walk, trot and canter.

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

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
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ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely	ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour
ACMEQU206 Perform horse riding skills at walk, trot and canter	ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely

Unit Sector

Livestock (LSK)

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 horse health and condition	1.1 Monitor horses for signs of ill health, injury, or poor condition as part of daily routines 1.2 Report horse condition to supervisor 1.3 Administer treatments for common ailments safely and humanely under supervision of veterinarian or supervisor 1.4 Carry out hoof care and cleaning according to safe workplace practices 1.5 Apply workplace biosecurity and sustainability policies and follow workplace procedures
2. Prepare horses for work	2.1 Assess work to be undertaken and confirm with supervisor 2.2 Identify hazards, assess risks, and implement control measures for working safely with horses 2.3 Select and check equipment suitable for the work to be undertaken 2.4 Select and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) during preparation activities 2.5 Identify horses by sex, colour, markings, and brands 2.6 Safely and humanely catch assigned horse, assess for health and soundness, and promptly report any issues to supervisor 2.7 Confirm with supervisor that the assigned horse is suitable for required work and own skill level

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	2.8 Prepare horse for ridden work including a pre-exercise groom 2.9 Fit and adjust, for individual horses, the appropriate working gear to manage and control horse for required work
3. Ride horses for stock work	3.1 Select and use equipment (PPE) for riding 3.2 Lunge horse safely and humanely to check gear fit and horse behaviour 3.3 Mount horse safely 3.4 Safely control the horse at walk, trot, and canter prior to beginning stock work 3.5 Practise appropriate safety drills and safely perform emergency manoeuvres including one-rein stops 3.6 Using safe riding techniques, ride quiet, consistent and obedient horses to carry out basic stock work duties 3.7 Work and safely control horse at a walk, trot, and canter as part of stock husbandry routines 3.8 Safely dismount horse 3.9 Report and record stock work activities
4. Provide post ride care	4.1 Remove gear and groom, wash, or clean horse, according to workplace policy 4.2 Water and feed horse in line with workplace policy 4.3 Release horse safely to appropriate enclosure, paddock, or yard 4.4 Check, clean, maintain, and store working gear and PPE 4.5 Report damaged or repair working gear as instructed

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 data and observations about livestock in workplace forms accurately

Skill	Description
Oral communication	Use active listening and questioning techniques to clarify and confirm instructions and report information
Navigate the world of work	Follow workplace procedures, including safe work and safe horse handling practices and animal welfare principles, in own role and work area
Get the work done	Plan and organise tasks and assemble equipment to complete basic livestock activities, taking safety and risk factors into consideration

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCLSK218 Ride educated horses to carry out basic stock work Release 2	AHCLSK218 Ride educated horses to carry out basic stock work Release 1	Minor changes to wording to clarify safety requirements and addition of foundation skills descriptions	Equivalent unit

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

Assessment Requirements for AHCLSK218 Ride educated horses to carry out basic stock work

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Performance Evidence

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

There must be evidence that the individual has safely ridden at least two different calm, consistent and obedient horses educated for stock work to carry out at least three assigned jobs involving riding horses for basic stock work duties. For each job there must be evidence that the individual has:

- prepared for the job by:
 - recognising hazards and implementing required risk control measures
 - identifying relevant work health and safety requirements
 - selecting and using suitable personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - selecting suitable saddlery and equipment
 - identifying the assigned horse by gender, colour markings, and brands
 - catching assigned horse and assessing for health and soundness
 - communicating with supervisor to discuss concerns and suitability of horse for the assigned job
- handled horse safely and humanely during job including:
 - safely and correctly fitting, then checking and adjusting working gear to suit individual horse
 - mounting horse safely
 - riding and controlling horse, at a walk, trot, and canter, to perform basic stock work duties
 - adhering to animal welfare policies when working around horses and livestock
 - minimising stress of livestock when checking, mustering, and moving livestock
 - dismounting horse safely
- completed post-ride activities including:

- cleaning, feeding and watering horse
- checking, cleaning and maintaining tack
- completing records as required by workplace.

In addition, there must be evidence that the individual has monitored the condition of at least one horse (which may be one of the above-mentioned three horses), including:

- identifying signs of ill health, injury, or poor condition, and reporting to supervisor
- safely and humanely administering basic treatments under supervision
- carrying out basic hoof care and cleaning safely and humanely.

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, animal welfare codes of practice, biosecurity requirements, and sustainability practices in the context of own job role
- basic pre-activity risk assessment for basic stock work
- common horse gender, colours, markings, and other identifying features
- common basic features of horse behaviour and psychology
- the features of livestock behaviour and how this is utilised to minimise stress for horse and livestock
- relevant workplace procedures, industry standards, and guidelines for horse riding and riding safety, including lungeing or riding in a yard before outside and one-rein stops
- basic care and husbandry, and procedures for horses
- the common signs of disease or injury in horses, basic anatomy and physiology of the horse
- the use of horses for workplace operations
- care and maintenance of working gear.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions, including livestock handling yards and paddocks
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various live, calm, consistent and obedient horses educated for stock work and assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - livestock to muster, move, and check
 - appropriate tack for individual, horse and activity
 - personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly fitted and applicable to activity for the individual

- specifications:
 - work instructions and procedures for carrying out basic stock work.

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=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>