



Australian Government

AHCLSK337 Train, care for and ride horses for stock work

Release: 1

AHCLSK337 Train, care for and ride horses for stock work

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 2.0

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to handle, ride and train horses to muster, move and separate livestock. It covers caring for horses and equipment, and addresses the potential risks associated with working with and around horses and livestock.

This unit applies to individuals who have experience working in the livestock industry and in riding educated, compliant and manageable horses to muster and check stock on grazing properties. Work is normally carried out independently, under broad direction according to workplace procedures.

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:

- AHCLSK218 Ride educated horses to carry out basic stock work

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

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
AHCLSK218 Ride educated horses to carry out basic stock work	ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely ACMEQU206 Perform horse

	riding skills at walk, trot and canter
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. Prepare horses for work	1.1 Select, use and maintain appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) 1.2 Select, muster, or bring from paddock, and assess the suitability of the horse for the task 1.3 Catch and handle horses safely and humanely 1.4 Check horse health, soundness, and fitness level to ensure it is capable to complete the work required 1.5 Select, check, and maintain working equipment, according to instructions 1.6 Groom horse prior to exercise or work 1.7 Fit working gear to individual horse
2. Train horses for stock work	2.1 Identify and assess risks, and implement risk controls associated with horse riding and horse training 2.2 Assess current level of education of the horse 2.3 Train horse to calmly carry out required movements for working stock, including stops, turns and rollbacks 2.4 Train horse to work and control a mob of livestock as a whole 2.5 Train horse to safely handle a single beast and to return it to the mob safely according to industry practices

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	2.6 Train horse to separate a beast from a mob as instructed and according to industry practices 2.7 Train horse to calmly accept a stock whip being used by the rider, if required by the workplace, according to industry practices 2.8 Train horse to work with working dogs where required by workplace 2.9 Utilise agreed emergency procedures when training horses in required safety movements, including one-rein stops
3. Ride horses to carry out stock work	3.1 Interpret work program to determine work to be undertaken, and confirm with management 3.2 Select horses for the task, taking into consideration task requirements and own skill level 3.3 Catch and handle horses safely and humanely 3.4 Practise and reinforce training of horse while carrying out routine stock work 3.5 Take corrective action to re-train horse where necessary
4. Provide post ride care and maintain saddlery and equipment	4.1 Remove gear, and groom, wash and/or clean horse according to industry practices 4.2 Water and feed horse in line with workplace procedures and safe work practices 4.3 Release horse safely to appropriate enclosure, paddock or yard 4.4 Check, clean, maintain and store working gear 4.5 Repair working gear according to industry practices 4.6 Apply the workplace's biosecurity and sustainability policies
5. Maintain horse health and condition	5.1 Monitor horses as a part of daily routines to identify signs of ill health, injury and poor condition 5.2 Muster or catch horses in need of attention, and report and record condition in line with workplace procedures 5.3 Administer prescribed treatments for common ailments, under supervision of the veterinarian or manager 5.4 Safely check horse legs and feet, safely clean out feet, and correctly identify lameness and potential causes for lameness 5.5 Organise shoeing according to workplace 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
Reading	Comprehend information in workplace documentation
Writing	Record data and observations about horses in workplace forms accurately
Navigate the world of work	Follow industry guidelines and workplace procedures, including safe work and safe horse handling practices and animal welfare principles, relevant to own role
Interact with others	Follow accepted communication practices and protocols for reporting issues to management using accurate industry terminology
Get the work done	Plan, sequence and prioritise multiple tasks, and assemble equipment to complete activities, taking safety and risk factors into consideration

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCLSK337 Train, care for and ride horses for stock work	AHCLSK336 Educate, care for and ride horses for stock work	Unit and assessment requirement content changed to clarify safety requirements and intent of unit 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 AHCLSK337 Train, care for and ride horses for 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 cared for, ridden and trained at least two different horses for stock work. The following points must be demonstrated for each horse:

- identifying work health and safety hazards and implementing safe work procedures
- selecting and maintaining saddlery and equipment
- handling and preparing horses for riding and livestock work
- using calm and humane handling methods to minimise undue stress and risk to horses, handlers, and livestock according to animal welfare requirements
- developing a working relationship with the horse or horses in own care
- monitoring health and condition of horses, including carrying out basic hoof care and cleaning
- identifying signs of ill health, injury, or poor condition and administering basic treatments
- training horses to:
 - calmly carry out required movements for working stock, including safety movements, stops, turns and rollbacks
 - work and control a mob of livestock as a whole
- riding, controlling and stopping the horse to carry out checking, mustering and moving livestock as part of property operations
- assessing and monitoring horse behaviour during riding activities and taking corrective action if required
- completing post-ride activities including:
 - cleaning, feeding and watering horse
 - checking and maintaining tack
 - completing records as required by workplace.

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:

- common horse colours and markings, gender and other identifying features
- horse movement and behavioural characteristics, and learning theories relevant to stock work
- livestock behaviour and how this is utilised to minimise stress for horse and livestock
- relevant industry standards and practices, and workplace procedures and guidelines for horse riding and riding safety, including lungeing, riding in a yard before riding outside, and one-rein stops
- approaches to horse education for stock work and associated learning theories
- basic care husbandry and management procedures for horses
- common signs of unsoundness, including injury, disease, work stress or other disorders in horses
- basic anatomy and physiology of the horse
- use of horses for workplace operations
- care and maintenance of working gear
- horse conformation and work readiness or level of education
- horse handling and riding techniques
- key requirements of work health and safety and animal welfare regulations, and codes of practice relevant to working and interacting with horses.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions containing livestock handling facilities
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various live, suitably educated, compliant and manageable horses to be trained for stock work and assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - livestock to use in training horses
 - appropriate tack for individual, horse and stock work activity
 - personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly fitted and applicable to activity for the individual
- specifications:
 - work instructions and workplace procedures for training, caring for and riding horses for 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.

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