



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

RTE3137A Carry out basic hoof care procedures

Release: 1

RTE3137A Carry out basic hoof care procedures

Modification History

Not applicable.

Unit Descriptor

This competency standard covers the process of maintaining horse hooves in premium condition. It requires the application of skills and knowledge necessary to inspect hooves, to perform basic care in line with enterprise policy, and to provide assistance to farriers and veterinarians where appropriate.

Work is likely to be under limited supervision from others, with checking only related to overall progress. The inspection and maintenance of hooves is performed within routines, methods and procedures, with necessary skills such as the basic use of farriery tools to complete routine hoof care.

Application of the Unit

Not applicable.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

Not applicable.

Employability Skills Information

Not applicable.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Not applicable.

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element	Performance Criteria
1 Prepare to perform hoof care on horses	1.1 Work to be undertaken is interpreted from work program, where necessary, and confirmed with management. 1.2 Organisation requirements for the care and handling of horses within the guidelines of animal health and welfare are recognised and understood. 1.3 Discussions are held with other workers who may be affected by the activities to ensure continued smooth operation of the process. 1.4 Tools and equipment suitable for the work to be undertaken are selected, checked, and maintained if necessary. 1.5 Suitable personal protective equipment is selected, used and maintained.
2 Provide hoof care to horse	2.1 Basic farriery tools are selected for appropriate use. 2.2 Horses legs are picked up and hooves picked and cleaned according to set leg routines. 2.3 Legs are held and the hoof presented to allow treatment to be carried out efficiently and safely. 2.4 Basic hoof care is provided according to organisation guidelines and procedures. 2.5 OHS hazards are continually identified while handling horses, risks assessed and suitable controls implemented.
3 Replace dislodged and loose shoes	3.1 Loose shoe is removed and straightened if required. 3.2 Loose shoes are tightened by re-nailing or application of extra nails. 3.3 Cast shoe is reapplied taking care to avoid injury to the animal and all nails are clinched. 3.4 Farrier assistance is called where hoof trimming or

shoe shaping is required.

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| 4 | Complete maintenance and administration | 4.1 | Equipment is cleaned in according to manufacturers specifications, organisational procedures and regulations. |
| | | 4.2 | Attachments and other ancillary equipment are cleaned and stored according to with manufacturers specifications, organisational procedures and regulations. |
| | | 4.3 | All containers, leftover fluids, waste and debris from the operations are disposed of safely and appropriately. |
| | | 4.4 | All required documentation recorded accurately and promptly according to organisational requirements. |

Required Skills and Knowledge

Not applicable.

Evidence Guide

Competence in carrying out basic hoof care procedures requires evidence of the ability to inspect and evaluate state of hooves, and perform required tasks in basic maintenance. It also requires the ability to assist professionals with intensive hoof treatment. Evidence must be demonstrated in complying with relevant legislative requirements.

The skills and knowledge required to carry out basic hoof care procedures must be **transferable** to a different work environment. For example, across a range of breeds, uses and ages of horses.

What specific knowledge is needed to achieve the performance criteria?

Knowledge and understanding are essential to apply this standard in the workplace, to transfer the skills to other contexts, and to deal with unplanned events. The knowledge requirements for this competency standard are listed below:

- the structure of the hoof and associated problems

- hoof care and shoeing procedures

- hoof injury

- the need to maximise hygiene practices and awareness.

What specific skills are needed to achieve the performance criteria?

To achieve the performance criteria, appropriate literacy and numeracy levels as well as some complementary skills are required. These include the ability to:

- competently handle and restrain horses of all classes for hoof procedures
- handle horses and duties around them in a firm but calm, gentle and unhurried manner
- complete horse records clearly and accurately
- observe, identify and react appropriately to environmental implications and OHS hazards.

What processes should be applied to this competency standard?

There are a number of processes that are learnt throughout work and life, which are required in all jobs. They are fundamental processes and generally transferable to other work functions. Some of these are covered by the **key competencies**, although others may be added. The questions below highlight how these processes are applied in this competency standard. Following each question a number in brackets indicates the level to which the key competency needs to be demonstrated where 0 = not required, 1 = perform the process, 2 = perform and administer the process and 3 = perform, administer and design the process.

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| 1. How can communication of ideas and information (1) be applied? | In communicating with farriers and veterinarians. |
| 2. How can information be collected, analysed and organised (1)? | In organising treatment timetables and treatment regimes. |
| 3. How are activities planned and organised (2)? | By organising personnel and contractors. |
| 4. How can team work (2) be applied? | By working with others to achieve overall enterprise goals. |
| 5. How can the use of mathematical ideas and techniques (1) be applied? | In estimating age and treatment intervals. |
| 6. How can problem-solving skills (2) be applied? | When dealing with hoof injury. |
| 7. How can the use of technology (1) be applied? | When calculating and communicating. |

Are there other competency standards that could be assessed with this one?

This competency standard **could** be assessed on its own or in combination with other competencies relevant to the job function, for example:

RTE3104A - Carry out basic dentition care procedures on horses

There is essential information about **assessing this competency standard for consistent performance** and **where and how it may be assessed**, in the Assessment Guidelines for this Training Package. All users of these competency standards must have **access** to the **Assessment Guidelines**. Further advice may also be sought from the relevant **sector booklet**.

Range Statement

Range of Variables

The Range of Variables explains the contexts within which the performance and knowledge requirements of this standard may be assessed. The scope of variables chosen in training and assessment requirements may depend on the work situations available

Where might organisation work procedures be found for the **work to be undertaken**?

Work procedures will be based on sound agricultural principles and practices and may include supervisors oral or written instructions, organisation standard operating procedures, specifications, work notes, waste disposal, recycling and re-use guidelines, and OHS procedures.

What **personal protective and equipment** may be relevant to this standard?

This may include boots, overalls, gloves, protective eyewear, hearing protection, respirator or face mask, and sun protection (sun hat, sunscreen).

What **farrierytools** might be need?

Hoofpicks, paring knife, farrier's hammer, anvil, clinching pliers, and horseshoe nails.

What does **hoof care** involve?

Hoof care, in particular for young horses will require regular attention to minimise hoof damage through cracking, cuts or abrasions.

What actions could be taken to eliminate or minimise the **OHS** risk?

The range of actions are both systematic and run at an operational level. They are listed below:

safe work systems and procedures to reduce kicks, bites and crushing injuries from horses
- this will include using calm and positive actions to avoid alarming stock

safe manual handling systems and procedures

safe horse restraining procedures used while working on horses

clear communication between workers, especially when working together within a close proximity

all procedures must be carried out in compliance with the provisions of the Workplace Health and Safety Acts, their regulations and the relevant codes of practice.

What type of **shoeing** is covered by this unit? Cold shoeing is the only type of work covered by this unit. Hot shoeing is not covered in this unit or this Training Package.

What information might be **recorded** and how might it be documented? Dates, times and periods of operation and maintenance, and substances used including quantities and methods.
Record keeping systems used may be either paper-based or digital, and information will be recorded into logbooks or other records.

For more information on contexts, environment and variables for training and assessment refer to the Sector Booklet.

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.