

Groom a horse

Level 2

Credits 2

Purpose People credited with this unit standard are able to: prepare items in a grooming kit and the horse for grooming; groom the horse in a manner appropriate for the activity; clean and oil the horse's feet, and check for health status; and care for a grooming kit.

Subfield Equine

Domain Equine Care

Status Registered

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Entry information Open.

Accreditation Evaluation of documentation by NZQA and industry.

Standard setting body (SSB) NZ Equine Industry Training Organisation

Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP) reference 0018

This AMAP can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Special notes

- 1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and its subsequent amendments.
- 2 *Stable procedures* are the documented practices and polices required within a particular workplace, and do not contravene the *Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Horses* (Wellington: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, 1993) or available at <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/animal-welfare/codes/horses/index.htm>.
- 3 For this unit standard the practical assessment evidence must be provided in the context of a commercial business operation under normal working conditions.

Elements and performance criteria

Element 1

Prepare items in a grooming kit and the horse for grooming.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 The grooming kit is assembled and prepared for use and is free of contamination from previous use in accordance with stable procedures.
- Range may include but is not limited to – dandy brush, body brush, curry comb, mane comb, hoof brush, hoof pick, sponges, scraper, bot knife, towel, rubber mitts, wet wipes, bucket of water, hoof oil and applicator.
- 1.2 Horse is restrained in a halter fitted to achieve designated purpose, and tied using a quick release knot with sufficient length of rope for the horse to remain in a comfortable position while standing.
- 1.3 The horse's rug or cover is removed in a manner which is safe for the horse and the handler.

Element 2

Groom the horse in a manner appropriate for the activity.

Range may include but is not limited to – dandy brush, body brush, curry comb, mane comb, hoof brush, hoof pick, sponges, scraper, bot knife, towel, rubber mitts, wet wipes, bucket of water, hoof dressing and applicator.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Obvious signs of mud and sweat are removed using the designated items in the grooming kit in a systematic manner.
- 2.2 Mane and tail are brushed until hairs lie flat and are clean and free of tangles using the designated items in the grooming kit in a systematic manner.
- 2.3 Face and dock are cleaned to remove signs of dirt and discharges in a manner which does not cause discomfort to the horse.
- 2.4 Horse is checked for external parasites, fungi, injuries and other abnormalities, and report is made to supervisor.

Element 3

Clean and oil the horse's feet, and check for health status.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Feet are picked up and held in a position which causes the least discomfort for the horse and is safe for the attendant.
- Range foreleg, hindleg.
- 3.2 Cleaning of ground surface of feet using a hoofpick removes stones and dirt.
- 3.3 Check of shoes identifies signs of wear and unsafe shoes.
- Range includes but is not limited to – risen clenches, fit, damage, wear requiring replacement.
- 3.4 Hoof oil applied to the hoof includes contact with the coronet.
- Range ground surface, top surface.
- 3.5 State of the horse's feet and legs is reported by accurate description in accordance with stable procedures.

Element 4

Care for a grooming kit.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Items used for grooming are cleaned after use to remove dirt and hairs, and replaced in the designated area in accordance with stable procedures.
- 4.2 Items in the grooming kit are washed, rinsed, and dried on a regular basis to maintain in a clean and hygienic condition in accordance with stable procedures.

Please note

Providers must be accredited by NZQA, or an inter-institutional body with delegated authority for quality assurance, before they can report credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by NZQA before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Accreditation requirements and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP). The

AMAP also includes useful information about special requirements for organisations wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the NZ Equine Industry Training Organisation equineito@xtra.co.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.