

Title	Select and fit gear on a horse for a specific riding activity		
Level	4	Credits	6

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: demonstrate knowledge of the purpose, types of bits and their functions, and select a bit for a horse for a specific activity, fit, and remove; select auxiliaries and fit on the horse for a specific activity; select and fit a saddle and saddle accessories suitable for a specific activity, and select back and saddle protection suitable for the horse and the activity.
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Classification	Equine > Saddlery
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation and code relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to:
 - Animal Welfare Act 1999;
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
 - Code of Welfare: Horses and Donkeys.
- 2 Performance of all aspects of this unit standard should comply with the *Code of Welfare: Horses and Donkeys*, available at www.mpi.govt.nz.
- 3 For this unit standard the practical assessment evidence must be provided in the context of a commercial business operation under normal working conditions.
- 4 Definitions
Specific activities may include racing, endurance, showing, dressage, eventing, hunting, show jumping, polo.
Stable procedures are the documented practices and polices required within a particular equine workplace.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of the purpose, types of bits and their functions, and select a bit for a horse for a specific activity, fit and remove.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Explain the purpose and action of the bit on the horse in terms of its desired function.
- Range tongue, bars of mouth, corners of mouth, roof of mouth, jaw, poll, chin groove.
- 1.2 Identify types of bits and describe their functions and suitability for a selected activity.
- Range may include but is not limited to – unjointed, single and double jointed, halfmoon, mullen mouth, fixed cheek, French snaffle, jointed snaffle, gag snaffle, double bridles (weymouth and bridoon), kimblewick, pelham, elevator, cherry roller, Dr Bristol, German snaffle (hollow mouth snaffle), dexter ring bit, anti-rearing bit;
evidence of at least 10 bits is required.
- 1.3 Select a bit according to the action of the bit, the horse's stage of training, and regulatory requirements.
- 1.4 Fit bridles with bits, to ensure the fit is comfortable and remove from the horse without discomfort to the horse and in accordance with stable procedures.
- 1.5 Recognise resistance or evasion through pain or fear when been ridden, and action is taken to identify and remove or correct cause in accordance with stable procedures.
- Range may include but is not limited to – tongue over bit, 'above the bit' (horse puts head up), 'behind the bit' (horse tucks head in), bruised bars;
evidence of one is required.

Outcome 2

Select auxiliaries and fit on the horse for a specific activity.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Select auxiliaries suited to the activity of the horse and fit in a manner which is comfortable for the horse and fulfils required action.
- Range may include but is not limited to – nosebands; cavesson, drop, flash (hanoverian), grakle (crossed), kinton (puckle); martingales; standing, running, market harborough, irish; breastplates, crupper;
evidence of three is required.

Outcome 3

Select and fit a saddle and saddle accessories suitable for a specific activity.

Performance criteria

3.1 Select saddle appropriate to the activity and the rider's requirements.

3.2 Fit saddle to contours of horse's back and the size of the rider.

3.3 Select girth appropriate to the activity, the type of saddle, and the rider's requirements.

Range may include but is not limited to – web, leather, string, nylon, elastic; evidence of one is required.

3.4 Identify signs and behaviours of a sore back.

Range rearing, hypersensitivity, napping, bucking, bolting.

3.5 Identify causes of sore backs and rectify in accordance with the cause and stable procedures.

Range saddle fit, saddle cloth fit, rider experience, unevenly placed loads, poor conformation.

Outcome 4

Select back and saddle protection suitable for the horse and a specific activity.

Performance criteria

4.1 Select back pad appropriate to the activity, the type of saddle, and the rider's requirements.

Range may include but is not limited to – gel pad, key, foam; evidence of one is required.

4.2 Select saddle cloth and fit appropriate to the activity, the type of saddle, and the rider's requirements.

Planned review date	31 December 2025
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	28 November 1994	31 December 2022
Review	2	23 November 1996	31 December 2022
Review	3	24 June 1998	31 December 2022
Review	4	25 September 2003	31 December 2022
Review	5	23 April 2008	31 December 2022
Review	6	24 September 2020	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0018
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the Primary Industry Training Organisation standards@primaryito.ac.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.