

<b>Title</b>	<b>Demonstrate knowledge of the gear and procedures used in the exercise of horses</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>6</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	<p>This unit standard is for people involved with assisting the trainer in the preparation of horses for an event, race, or competition.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: describe the significance of correctly identifying horses, strategies for catching, and techniques for restraining and leading horses; describe cover styles, their purpose, fit, and maintenance; identify gear and auxiliaries used when exercising horses, describe their purpose, and fit and adjust bridles and auxiliaries; identify lower leg protections for horses and describe their purpose and maintenance and select and fit on horse; and describe post-exercise procedures and rationales.</p>
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<b>Classification</b>	Equine > Equine Training
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<b>Available grade</b>	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](http://www.mpi.govt.nz).
- 3 Definitions
 

*Stable procedures* are the documented practices and policies required within a particular workplace.

*Industry practices* are the documented practices and policies required by individual industry rules and regulations.
- 4 Candidates are required to demonstrate knowledge of the gear and practices used within the sector they are being assessed.
- 5 Assessment
 

For the purpose of this unit standard, the assessment evidence must be provided in the context of a commercial business operation under normal working conditions.

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## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Describe the significance of correctly identifying horses, strategies for catching, and techniques for restraining and leading horses.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 Identify horses and describe according to individual breed association requirements.
- Range breed associations may include but is not limited to – Thoroughbreds, Standardbreds, Sport horses, freeze brand, fire brand, micro-chip;  
evidence of two breed associations is required.
- 1.2 Describe situations of incorrect identification in terms of the consequences.
- Range situations may include but is not limited to – breaches of rules of racing, registration and branding, breeding shed, transportation;  
evidence of three consequences is required.
- 1.3 Describe reasons for horses being difficult to catch in terms of behaviour and circumstances.
- Range reasons for difficult behaviour may include but is not limited to – environment, temperament, past experiences, training, methods applied;  
evidence of at least four behaviour and circumstances is required.
- 1.4 Describe strategies for catching horses in a variety of situations in terms of safety, and facilities.
- Range situations may include but is not limited to – group of horses, single horse, unhandled horse, mare and foal;  
evidence of two strategies is required.
- 1.5 Describe halter types and material varieties in terms of their advantages and disadvantages and demonstrate fitting of halter types.
- Range halter types may include but is not limited to – leather, nylon, rope, foal slip, trigger clip throat lash, nose, throat, check or crown adjustments, poll and nose padding;  
evidence of three halter types is required;  
evidence of fitting two halters is required.

- 1.6 Describe stable procedures and gear required for leading horses in different situations in terms of stable procedures and safety for horse and handler.

Range procedures and gear required may include but is not limited to – one person, more than one person, halter, bridle, rearing bit, shank, rump rope, leather or rope lead rein; evidence of at least two procedures and two gear types is required; situations may include but are not limited to – stables, tie-ups, opening and shutting gates, racetracks and training tracks, handling stallions, stallions at shows, loading and unloading, young stock, more than one horse; evidence of three different situations is required.

- 1.7 Describe the purpose of a breakaway attachment in terms of situations where their use is beneficial and in terms of situations where their use may be detrimental to the horse and its training.

Range may include but is not limited to – trained and untrained horse, tie-up stalls, transporting, industry practices; evidence of two is required.

## Outcome 2

Describe cover styles, their purpose, fit, and maintenance when used to cover horses.

### Performance criteria

- 2.1 Describe cover styles and materials in terms of their purpose and benefits.

Range may include but is not limited to – sweat, canvas sheet, canvas rug, wool, quilted, jute, under-rug, sheet, synthetic, with or without neckpiece; evidence of four cover styles is required.

- 2.2 Describe the criteria for selecting and fitting horse covers in accordance with stable procedures.

Range may include but is not limited to – brands and types of covers, conformation, size, measure, fit, international sizing.

- 2.3 Describe the care, maintenance, and storage of covers in terms of longevity and safety in accordance with stable procedures.

## Outcome 3

Identify gear and auxiliaries used when exercising horses, describe their purpose, and fit and adjust bridles and auxiliaries.

### Performance criteria

- 3.1 Identify gear and auxiliaries in terms of their purpose and the advantages and disadvantages of their utilisation in accordance with stable procedures and the rules of the sector's ruling body.

Range may include but is not limited to – hobbles, rein pricker, tail tie, crupper, half blinds, ear plugs, tongue tie, reins, side reins, breastplates, sulky, traces, blinkers, nosebands; martingales; evidence of five auxiliaries is required.

- 3.2 Fit and adjust horses' bridle and auxiliaries in terms of safety and comfort for the horse, handler, and/or rider or driver.

Range evidence of adjusting bridles on three different horses is required.

#### Outcome 4

Identify lower leg protections for horses and describe their purpose and maintenance and select and fit on horse.

#### Performance criteria

- 4.1 Identify lower leg protections in terms of the reasons for their use in accordance with stable procedures.

Range lower leg protections may include but are not limited to – brushing, tendon, shin and tendon, over reach, kneeboots, bellboots, open front jumping boots, bandages; reasons for use may include but are not limited to – interference, support, protection; evidence of four different lower leg protections is required.

- 4.2 Select lower leg protection and fit for purpose in accordance with stable procedures.

Range may include but is not limited to – brushing, tendon, shin and tendon, over reach, kneeboots, bellboots, open front jumping boots, bandages; evidence of three is required.

- 4.3 Describe the care and maintenance of lower leg protection in terms of longevity and safety in accordance with stable procedures.

Range may include but is not limited – rubber, plastic, leather, wool lined; evidence of three is required.

#### Outcome 5

Describe post-exercise procedures and rationales.

**Performance criteria**

- 5.1 Describe methods and purpose for cooling horses following exercise in terms of physiological and psychological benefits in accordance with stable procedures.
- Range may include but is not limited to – sweat removed, walked, covered, health, injuries reported.
- 5.2 Describe the importance of ensuring all cover fasteners are secured for the horse in terms of safety, fit, and comfort in accordance with stable procedures.
- Range may include but is not limited to – security, cover rubs, fit, slipping, injury, prevention, conformation, size; evidence of four is required.
- 5.3 Describe consequences of failing to release a horse safely in terms of safety for the horse, the handler, and other horses in accordance with stable procedures.
- Range may include but is not limited to – stable, paddock, yard, handler kicked, knocking hips, paddock injury, escaping, knocked over; evidence of four consequences is required.
- 5.4 Describe the cleaning of gear and provision of suitable storage in terms of safety, longevity, and security in accordance with stable procedures.

<b>Planned review date</b>	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	22 May 2009	31 December 2022
Review	2	24 September 2020	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	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](mailto:standards@primaryito.ac.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.