

Modification history

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 3.0.

ACMEQU4X7	Educate horses for riding
Application	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required for horse starting or beginning education and to further develop skills for riding for intended purpose or discipline. The unit can be customised for other domestic equines including donkeys, mules and hinnies</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals with high level experience and skills in horse handling and riding who have responsibility for educating horses for a range of disciplines or purposes. They work independently within organisational guidelines, deal with predictable and unpredictable situations and apply problem-solving skills to achieve outcomes.</p> <p>All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures according to state/territory health and safety regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.</p> <p>No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p>
Prerequisite Unit	Nil
Unit Sector	Equine (EQU)

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 to educate a horse	1.1 Establish client needs and requirements for individual horse 1.2 Assess level of education, temperament, conformation, condition and health of the horse 1.3 Prepare safe, secure and controlled facilities to conduct education 1.4 Identify hazards and control potential risks to safety of handler/s and horse/s 1.5 Select and correctly fit own personal protective equipment (PPE) 1.6 Prepare a plan to educate the horse based on individual needs, current equine learning theory and intended purpose
2. Commence starting education	2.1 Develop calm and obedient behaviour by gaining trust and confidence of horse through handling, care and grooming 2.2 Introduce a halter and lead rope and educate the horse to be led and to respect the handler's space while being led 2.3 Educate the horse to focus attention and respond to cues relating to forward movement, changing direction, turning and halting within a controlled environment 2.4 Desensitise the horse to equipment and aids used in education exercises 2.5 Teach the horse to lead, tie up, be handled all over and pick up all feet 2.6 Recognise and reward the horse for progress towards desired behaviours

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
3. Commence horse under saddle	3.1 Familiarise horse with tack, including bridle and saddle, in preparation to mounting and riding 3.2 Mouth horse and educate to respond to rein cues 3.3 Prepare horse to be mounted and introduce weight to the horse's back 3.4 Mount horse and reinforce exercises to control forward movement, direction and flexing 3.3 Build-up time in saddle, using reins riding in increasing and decreasing circles in a controlled and safe environment 3.5 Recognise and respond humanely to signs of stress and fatigue in horses undergoing education
4. Develop skills in horse for intended riding purpose	4.1 Educate horse to ride at different paces and consolidate tempo and rhythm 4.2 Educate horse to a range of environments, terrain and obstacles relevant to objectives and discipline activities 4.3 Build horse confidence and reinforce skills required for intended purpose 4.4 Assess horse readiness to be considered ready for client's needs and riding ability 4.5 Use appropriate techniques to manage behaviour and performance according to animal welfare principles and current equine learning theory

Foundation Skills	
<i>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.</i>	
Skill	Description
Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively source current, evidence-based information on equine education and learning theory to inform practices
Navigate the world of work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take responsibility for complying with regulatory requirements, including work health and safety and animal welfare within own role and area of work Follow safe, ethical and humane horse handling industry practices
Interact with others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work collaboratively and communicate effectively with others to plan programs and report on horse performance and progress
Get the work done	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse problems and risks, devise solutions and reflect on approaches taken

Unit Mapping Information			
Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU4X7 Educate horses for riding	Not applicable	New unit	No equivalent unit]

Links	Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103
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TITLE	Assessment requirements for ACMEQU4X7 Educate horses for riding
Performance Evidence	
<p>An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.</p> <p>There must be evidence that the individual has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> carried out starting/beginning education for two horses for ground work including catching, leading, grooming and picking up all feet carried out education of two horses to be ridden in the open trained and further developed skills for intended/specific purpose for one horse demonstrated safe horse handling skills and appropriate education techniques to ensure horse welfare at all times. 	

Knowledge Evidence	
<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> equine behaviour, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> body language vocalisations affective states, including fear, anxiety, hunger, fatigue behaviours and conditions, typically linked to strong flight or fight response, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fearful, nervous, timid, anxious behaviour aggressive responses to people and/or other equines overt signs of stress or injury fears of specific stimuli high risk behaviours (biting, kicking, panicking, extreme flight response) key features of current research on equine cognition, intelligence, ethology and learning abilities relevant to training horses techniques to shape or modify horse behaviour facilities and environments used in educating a horse to ride, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> controlled areas - arenas, fenced tracks uncontrolled areas tack and equipment, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> halter, bridle, saddle lungeing lines, long-lines personal protective equipment (PPE) features to include in an education plan, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> objectives and success criteria stages, timeframes, schedule tack and equipment range of purposes, including recreation/pleasure riding range of disciplines, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> racing, dressage, showing, show jumping, polo, polocrosse, western/sporting 	

Assessment Conditions	
<p>Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> physical conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions including round yards, enclosed arenas etc. suitable for starting and educating horses resources, equipment and materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> variety of horses –appropriately uneducated for the purpose of the education activity and assessed as suitable for handling by the individual PPE correctly fitted and applicable to activity for the individual appropriate tack and gear required for education program. 	

Assessment Conditions	
Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of the use of guidance provided in the <i>Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training</i> .	
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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