

Modification history

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 5.0.

ACMEQU4X4	Evaluate saddlery fit for horse and rider combination Evaluate fit of saddlery and associated equipment
Application	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to evaluate the fit of saddlery and equipment for individual horses for a range of horse activities.</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals who have responsibility for assessing the fit, condition and suitability of saddlery and equipment for a particular purpose and rider requirements across equine disciplines or industry sectors.</p> <p>Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety, and animal welfare legislation, regulations and codes of practice relevant to interacting with horses apply to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and jurisdictions.</p> <p>No licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p>
Prerequisite Unit	Nil
Unit Sector	Equine (EQU)

Commented [SH1]: Revised title - TBC

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. Relate saddlery and equipment design and condition to purpose and safety considerations	1.1 Identify saddlery and associated equipment used in horse activities 1.2 Relate saddlery and associated equipment design and purpose to horse activities 1.3 Identify safety aspects of saddlery and associated equipment used in various horse activities 1.4 Identify saddlery and associated equipment suitable for different levels of rider experience 2.6 Evaluate materials and techniques used in the construction of saddlery and associated equipment for horse and rider comfort and durability 1.5 Identify condition and assess stress and wear points of saddlery and equipment 1.6 Outline hazards, risks and controls associated with saddlery and associated equipment 1.7 Review workplace maintenance practices for potential improvements to arrangements
2. Assess horse comfort in relation to saddlery and associated equipment use	2.1 Evaluate and relate the conformational, breed and developmental characteristics of horses to the fit of saddlery and associated equipment 2.2 Evaluate the impact of the shape and size of a rider and load on horse balance and comfort 2.3 Evaluate the shape and size of the rider and the impact on the balance and comfort of the horse 2.4 Interpret horse behavioural and physical signs relevant to both correctly fitted and incorrectly fitted saddlery and associated equipment 2.5 Interpret rider physical signs relevant to correctly fitted and incorrectly fitted saddlery and associated equipment

Commented [SH2]: Moved from element 2? TBC

ACMEQU4X4 Evaluate saddlery fit for horse and rider combination

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. Assess the fit of saddles, bridles and associated equipment	3.1 Apply saddle fitting tools and techniques to determine appropriate saddle size and shape, and document results 3.2 Evaluate and report the fit of a saddle for horse, rider and activity 3.3 Evaluate and report the fit of bridles 3.4 Evaluate and report on a range of bits relevant to specific purposes 3.5 Provide advice on options for adjusting saddlery and associated equipment for improved horse and rider comfort and safety and make adjustments as required
4. Assess the fit of accessory equipment	4.1 Assess and report fit of saddle mounts 4.2 Assess and report fit of accessory gear 4.3 Assess and report fit of boots and bandages 4.4 Provide advice on options for adjusting accessory tack and equipment for improved horse and rider comfort and safety and make adjustments as required

Commented [SH3]: Can PCs 3.3 and 3.4 be merged?

Commented [SH4]: Can PCs 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 be merged?

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
Oral communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in verbal interactions with stakeholders using questioning and listening to confirm and clarify understanding Use language and tone appropriate for audience to convey information
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take measurements and estimate measurements with reasonable accuracy of horse and rider/handler physical characteristics

Unit Mapping Information			
Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU4X4 Evaluate saddlery fit for horse and rider combination	ACMEQU404 Evaluate fit of saddlery and equipment	Title changed Performance criteria updated for clarity Assessment requirements updated	Equivalent unit

Commented [SH5]: Revised title - TBC

Links
Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103

ACMEQU4X4 Evaluate saddlery fit for horse and rider combination

TITLE	Assessment requirements for ACMEQU4X4 Evaluate saddlery fit for horse and rider combination
Performance Evidence	
<p>An individual demonstrating competency in this unit must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria of this unit.</p> <p>There must be evidence that the individual evaluated the fit of a range of saddlery and associated equipment on at least three different horses of varying size and shape with different accessory needs, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessed construction, purpose and suitability of saddlery and equipment for horse, rider and activity • assessed fit and condition of saddlery and associated equipment and making recommendations on adjustments and maintenance • used safe work practices around horses and assessed risks to riders, horses and self in relation to saddlery and equipment. 	

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"> • saddlery and associated equipment, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • range available, including designs, styles, materials and purpose • saddlery and associated equipment relevant to different horse activities • horse musculoskeletal features and biomechanics related to the fit of saddlery and equipment, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • horse conformational challenges • back pathologies • safety aspects, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safety devices, systems and technologies relevant to saddlery and associated equipment • rider levels of experience • checking and maintaining saddlery and associated equipment • risk assessment and control • safe horse handling techniques • safe manual handling, including lifting and storing height of saddles • personal protective equipment (PPE) • industry terminology related to saddlery and associated equipment fit and purpose • recognising correct and incorrectly fitted saddles for horse and rider, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • saddles • girths • surcingles • stirrup leathers • stirrup irons • horse behaviour relevant to correctly and incorrectly fitted saddlery • rider physical signs relevant to correctly and incorrectly fitted saddlery • correct and incorrectly fitted associated equipment for horse and rider, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bridles • bits • breastplates • cruppers • nosebands • horse behaviour relevant to correctly and incorrectly fitted equipment • rider physical signs relevant to correctly and incorrectly fitted equipment • saddle and bridle fitting requirements for different disciplines • tools and techniques for fitting saddles, bridles, bits, boots and bandages • methods used to adjust fit of saddlery and associated equipment • industry or discipline guidelines, requirements or rules for saddlery and associated equipment • professional saddle-fitting contractors • key requirements of biosecurity standards and workplace hygiene relating to saddlery and equipment 	

ACMEQU4X4 Evaluate saddlery fit for horse and rider combination

Knowledge Evidence

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• key principles and practices of animal welfare relating to use and comfort of saddlery and equipment, and humane and ethical handling of horses. |
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Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• physical conditions:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• an equine workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions• resources, equipment and materials:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• a range of saddlery and associated equipment suited to different activities• live horses of varying size and shape, assessed as suitable for the skill and experience of the individual, fitted with saddlery and equipment to check and adjust. |
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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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