

LANNEHC8

Remove horseshoes and assess wear



Overview

This standard is about removing horseshoes so as to assess the wear on the shoe and foot. Assessing wear provides valuable information regarding any defects of conformation or abnormalities of gait, and any faults in the previous preparation of the foot or fitting of the shoe. This information is used to influence future footcare and develop the footcare plan. You will be aware that only registered farriers can undertake to fit horseshoes.

In order to remove horseshoes and assess wear you will need to approach and handle the equine in a humane manner that is likely to eliminate stress and alarm, and work in a position that is safe for the equine and yourself. You will need to remove the horseshoes using appropriate tools and prepare the feet so that they can be thoroughly examined. You will need to be able to work on both fore and hind feet and take into account the following factors:

1. equine's approximate age
2. equine temperament
3. condition of hooves
4. type/condition of shoe
5. use of equine

Responsible person owner or nominated person

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 select a method of humane handling and control that is appropriate for the equine concerned and its requirements, in order to minimise the risks to the animal, the handler, yourself and others
- P2 adopt a working position that is safe for the equine and yourself
- P3 clean feet and assess hoof condition
- P4 adopt a working position to maintain personal and equine comfort
- P5 safely remove shoes using appropriate tools and methods, taking care to minimise any damage to the hoof during removal
- P6 carry out a re-examination of the hoof, checking for foreign objects, or damage to the hoof
- P7 examine the shoe and assess the implications of the wear pattern for future footcare
- P8 advise the responsible person of your findings and adjust the footcare plan accordingly
- P9 ensure that the animal's health and welfare is maintained throughout
- P10 recognise matters requiring attention by a veterinary surgeon
- P11 maintain the health and safety of the equine, yourself and others at all times

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Working with equines

- K1 safe working limits of the foot and limb
- K2 how to use different methods of shoe removal, depending on the need, and the precautions to be taken to prevent injury to the equine, self and others
- K3 how to lift, hold and work with equine feet
- K4 when to refer matters to a veterinary surgeon

You need to know and understand:

Tools

- K5 Which tools to use and how to use and maintain them

You need to know and understand:

Equine requirements

- K6 factors affecting temperament/behaviour of different types of equines
- K7 characteristics of equines
- K8 how to assess shoe wear in relation to the needs and conformation of the equine
- K9 the effect of a shoe on the shape and function of the equine hoof and how the hoof will react to this
- K10 how the state of shoe or foot wear may affect the footcare plan

You need to know and understand:

Legal aspects

- K11 implications of the Veterinary Surgeons Act
- K12 implications of the Farriers (Registration) Act 1975 as amended
- K13 implications of animal welfare and other relevant legislation

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