# Select horses and identify their suitability for specific purposes



#### **Overview**

This standard is for those who are involved in the selection of horses for specific purposes, for breeding or for performance. This standard is about identifying the qualities needed for successful performance for a chosen discipline and being able to select horses that possess the potential to succeed in that discipline.

It involves identifying the qualities needed for successful performance for a chosen discipline, including breeds, bloodlines and performance records and the assessment of static and dynamic conformation in relation to the chosen discipline and being able to make a judgement on the suitability and potential of the horse.

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# Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 Establish and confirm the intended use of the horse
- P2 Confirm any specific requirements for the horse
- P3 Obtain and assess breeding information and records for the horse you are considering
- P4 Establish and evaluate the horse's performance, temperament and experience
- P5 Make an evaluation of the horse's static conformation and age against specific requirements
- P6 Make an evaluation of the horse's gait, balance and movement
- P7 Note any defects and discuss their implications with relevant individuals
- P8 Assess the potential, suitability and value of the horse against requirements
- P9 Determine the most suitable method of establishing the horse's soundness and health
- P10 Monitor and maintain the health and safety of horses, self and others during the work.

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# Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1	How and why certain breeds and types are suited to particular activities	
K2	The importance and implication of pedigrees	
K3	The role of the breeding and performance databases	
K4	Registration procedures, horse identification and passports	
K5	Differences in conformation for varying work roles	
K6	Implications of poor conformation and bone deformities	
K7	Implications of poor shoeing and hoof balancing	
K8	Assessment of static and dynamic conformation, including ageing	
K9	Relationship between skeletal anatomy, muscular make up and	
	soundness of the horse	
K10	Conditions of sale and warranties where horses are being purchased	
K11	Veterinary examinations for purchase, X-rays and blood tests	
K12	The areas of the law associated with the purchase and sale of horses	
K13	Insurance requirements and recommendations	
K14	Importance of giving accurate advice and the consequences of error	
K15	Your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and	
	health and safety legislation/codes of practice.	

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