

Overview

This standard is about assisting with the regular cleaning and grooming of horses. This may be carried out before or after exercise or at other times, as required.

The work described in this standard would be carried out under the direction of a supervisor. This could be direct supervision or it could be through providing instructions and monitoring work.

You will need to be fully aware of the importance of health, safety and animal welfare in connection with this activity.

Clean and groom horses, under supervision

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. wear appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment for the activity, according to instructions
2. prepare the work area, under supervision
3. approach the horse according to instructions and in a manner which minimises stress to the horse and risk to yourself and others
4. maintain control of the horse while cleaning and grooming
5. select equipment according to instructions
6. clean the horse's feet and legs, under supervision
7. clean the horse's mane and tail, under supervision
8. sponge the horse down, under supervision
9. groom the horse under supervision using appropriate equipment
10. report any concerns with the condition of the horse, feet or shoes to the supervisor
11. clean grooming equipment and store it correctly after use
12. dispose of waste safely and correctly
13. be aware of the health and safety of yourself and others, and the welfare of the horse, during the activity

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the use and care of personal protective equipment
2. your role and responsibilities around cleaning and grooming horses and why horses need to be groomed
3. how to approach horses in an appropriate manner to minimise stress and risk to yourself and others
4. the methods used to maintain control of the horse while cleaning and grooming
5. the types of cleaning and grooming equipment that are commonly used
6. how to use cleaning materials correctly and safely
7. the different grooming techniques and requirements and when to use them
8. the importance of drying the horse's legs after washing
9. how to use, clean and store grooming equipment
10. how to check the condition of the horse, feet or shoes and why this is important
11. the correct methods for the disposal of waste
12. your responsibilities for health, safety and animal welfare.

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Scope/range

Grooming:

- grooming horses in preparation for exercise
- grooming horses after exercise
- thorough grooming

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