

Put on and take off horse rugs, under supervision

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**Overview**

This standard is about putting on and taking off horse rugs under supervision. It includes rugs of different types, including stable and turn out with leg straps. It also includes identifying basic problems with horse rugs.

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

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### Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. wear appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment for the activity, according to instructions
2. approach the horse according to instructions and in a manner that minimises stress to the horse and risk to yourself and others
3. tie up and untie the horse safely and securely
4. put on horse rugs under supervision
5. take off, fold and store horse rugs, under supervision
6. report any problems with the rugs to the supervisor
7. adjust rugs in accordance with instructions
8. be aware of the health and safety of yourself and others, and the welfare of the horse, during the activity

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## Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the use and care of personal protective equipment
2. how to approach horses in an appropriate manner to minimise stress and risk to yourself and others
3. how to handle, tie up and untie horses safely and securely
4. the potential hazards to horses when they are wearing stable and turnout rugs with various leg straps/fillet strings
5. the reasons for ensuring the rugs are fitted correctly
6. the procedure to follow if rugs slip
7. how to put on and take off horse rugs
8. how to identify rugs that are in good and poor condition
9. how to fold and store rugs
10. the types of difficulties that may occur
11. the safety precautions to be taken when putting on and taking off horse rugs
12. your responsibilities for health, safety and animal welfare.

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**Scope/range**

Put on and take off the following horse rugs:

- under rug (where used)
- top rugs
- stable and turn out rugs with leg straps/fillet strings

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## Glossary

Problems with horse rugs could include:

- damage to the rug
- difficulty in putting on and taking off the rug
- issues with the fitting of the rug during wear

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