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## Overview

This standard is about mounting and dismounting suitable horses, under supervision. This will include mounting from the ground or from a mounting block. It also includes adjusting stirrups and girths. It is relevant to those involved with the routine exercise of suitable horses under saddle.

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.

Mount and dismount suitable horses, under supervision

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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 and lead the horse to the required area, according to instructions and in a manner that minimises stress to the horse and risk to yourself and others
3. tie up and untie horses in according to instructions
4. carry out the appropriate safety checks on tack and equipment, under supervision
5. mount and dismount suitable horses correctly, under supervision
6. 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. 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. how to recognise discomfort in horses when mounting and dismounting
5. safety considerations for the horse, yourself and others when mounting and dismounting
6. the necessary checks and preparations of tack and equipment prior to mounting, including checking the girth, pulling down stirrups prior to mounting and placing reins over the horse's head
7. the effect on the horse of mounting and dismounting
8. your responsibilities for health, safety and animal welfare.

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## Scope/range

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**Glossary**

Protective equipment:

- hat
- gloves
- boots
- suitable clothing for the activity

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<b>Developed by</b>	Lantra
<b>Version Number</b>	2
<b>Date Approved</b>	January 2017
<b>Indicative Review Date</b>	January 2021
<b>Validity</b>	Current
<b>Status</b>	Original
<b>Originating Organisation</b>	Lantra
<b>Original URN</b>	LANEq109
<b>Relevant Occupations</b>	Equine Assistant
<b>Suite</b>	Equine
<b>Keywords</b>	horse; equine; mount; dismount; stirrups; girth; saddle; reins

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