

Clean and groom horses for appearance

Overview

This standard is about cleaning and grooming horses for appearance. This can include making horses presentable for sale. As part of grooming, you will be required to check the horse's hooves.

The work described in this standard would be carried out following agreement with a supervisor about the responsibilities and methods of work.

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

You will need to be able to recognise hazards in the workplace.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. select and wear appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment for the activity, according to instructions
2. select and use grooming equipment safely and correctly
3. approach the horse in accordance with instructions and in a manner that minimises stress to the horse, and risk to yourself and others
4. clean and groom horses for appearance efficiently and correctly
5. wash and dry horses according to conditions and requirements
6. recognise and report when a horse's hooves need trimming or re-shoeing
7. clean equipment after use and store in the designated place
8. maintain the 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 selection, 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. grooming techniques and the correct use of the full grooming kit
4. reasons for and principles of cleaning and grooming horses, including health and hygiene
5. the procedure for washing and sponging off dirty horses and drying them
6. how to identify when a horse's hooves might need attention and the action to be taken
7. the types of problems that may occur with horse's shoes and the action to be taken
8. the risks to horses, yourself and others, and how these can be minimised
9. your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice.

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Scope/range

Clean and groom horses:

- bathing and drying a horse
- grooming a horse for public appearance

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