

## Assist riders to mount and dismount a horse

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### Overview

This standard involves assisting riders to mount and dismount a horse. This may include riders with special requirements.

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. approach the horse in accordance with instructions and in a manner that minimises stress to the horse, and risk to yourself and others
3. check the rider's requirements and prepare any aids needed to meet the rider's needs
4. carry out the appropriate safety checks on tack and equipment
5. position the horse correctly in the mounting/dismounting area
6. assist riders to mount and dismount a horse, according to instructions
7. 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. the different methods of mounting and dismounting and how they are carried out
4. the importance of using aids when mounting and dismounting riders
5. the safety considerations when mounting and dismounting
6. the problems likely to be encountered and how they would be dealt with
7. how to position the horse in the mounting/dismounting area
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**

Mount three riders using the following aids:

- lift-ons
- blocks
- ramps

Dismount three riders.

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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>	LANEq231
<b>Relevant Occupations</b>	Equine Assistant
<b>Suite</b>	Equine
<b>Keywords</b>	horse; equine; mount; dismount; riders