

Prepare horses for public appearance

Overview

This standard involves preparing horses for public appearance. This involves the trimming and plaiting of horse's manes and tails, where they are on show to the public. You will need to be able to use suitable methods of restraint during the work, and use the equipment safely and correctly.

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

You will need to be able to recognise hazards and assess risks 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
2. confirm the requirements for preparing the horse for public appearance with the appropriate person
3. select and use the correct tools and equipment for the work
4. handle and restrain the horse in a manner that does not compromise animal welfare, avoids behaviour giving rise to welfare concern and maintains health and safety
5. pull a horse's mane and/or tail if appropriate and in accordance with discipline or requirements
6. trim a horse in accordance with discipline or requirements
7. plait a horse's mane and/or tail in accordance with discipline or requirements
8. apply quarter marks in accordance with discipline or requirements
9. monitor and maintain 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 selection, use and care of personal protective equipment
2. the importance of using appropriate handling and restraint techniques and minimising stress to the horse and risks to yourself and others
3. the types of tools and equipment used for the work and their correct use
4. how to pull a horse's mane and/or tail and when this would be appropriate
5. how to plait and trim a horse's mane and/or tail, and apply quarter marks
6. the variation of requirements for different disciplines for trimming and plaiting a horse's mane and/or tail
7. the standards of preparation required for high-level public appearances
8. the risks to horses, yourself and others and how these are controlled
9. your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice.

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Glossary

Trimming can include:

- whiskers
- heels
- jaw line
- tail

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Developed by	Lantra
Version Number	2
Date Approved	January 2017
Indicative Review Date	January 2021
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Lantra
Original URN	LANEq309
Relevant Occupations	Equine Supervisor
Suite	Equine
Keywords	equine; horse; trim; plait; mane; tail; restrain; animal health and welfare