



HC-L1-P06 - GROOMING

Assessment Criteria covered:

108 1.4, 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1

Task Overview

Learners will demonstrate safe and effective grooming techniques within the yard environment. This practical task focuses on maintaining horse cleanliness and comfort, using grooming equipment correctly, working safely around horses, maintaining hygiene standards, and following health and safety procedures.

Learners must work calmly, confidently, and safely around horses at all times while following instructions from staff.

Activities to be Completed

Learners must complete the following practical duties:

- Approach and handle the horse safely
- Secure the horse safely for grooming
- Identify and select appropriate grooming equipment
- Carry out a full grooming routine
- Clean the horse safely and effectively
- Pick out feet safely if instructed and supervised
- Check the horse for cuts, swelling, injuries, or abnormalities
- Maintain cleanliness and hygiene throughout the task
- Clean and store grooming equipment correctly after use
- Wear appropriate PPE during all activities

Use of Tools and Equipment

Learners must demonstrate safe and correct use of grooming equipment, including:

- Body brush
- Dandy brush
- Curry comb
- Hoof pick
- Mane comb
- Sponges
- Grooming kit or box

Learners should:

- Use equipment for its intended purpose
- Use brushes in the correct order
- Keep equipment organised during use
- Check equipment for damage before use
- Clean and store equipment correctly after use

PPE Requirements

Learners must select and wear suitable PPE, including:

- Sturdy footwear or riding boots
- Gloves where appropriate
- Suitable yard clothing

Learners should explain why PPE is important when grooming horses.



Manual Handling and Safe Working

Learners must demonstrate safe working practices when:

- Carrying grooming kits or equipment
- Working around the horse
- Picking out feet if instructed

Learners should show:

- Calm and controlled movements
- Safe positioning around the horse
- Awareness of horse behaviour and body language
- Correct posture when bending or lifting

Health and Safety Requirements

Learners must:

- Work calmly and safely around horses
- Follow instructions from staff
- Maintain awareness of horse behaviour
- Keep grooming areas tidy and free from hazards
- Store equipment safely after use
- Maintain hygiene standards throughout

Examples of hazards may include:

- Loose equipment on the floor
- Unsafe positioning around horses
- Dirty grooming tools
- Sudden movements or loud noises
- Wet or slippery floors