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## Overview

This standard is about being able to long rein harness horses for exercise, under supervision. It involves being able to prepare horses for long reining, put on long reining equipment and harness as appropriate, prepare a suitable area for work, long rein horses according to instructions, and care for horses after exercise.

You will understand the importance of maintaining the harnessed horse's familiarity with voice commands and unseen noises. You will understand the importance of establishing and maintaining a halt on long reins, and of being able to rein back.

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.

## Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. select and wear appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment for the activity, according to instructions
2. check the horse is in a fit condition to be long reined
3. prepare the long reining area for exercise
4. long rein the harness horse from behind and in a circle around you, under supervision
5. carry out rein changes when long reining from behind and when long reining in a circle
6. handle and use the lunge whip appropriately
7. use voice aids appropriately
8. maintain control of the horse at all times
9. maintain the 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 selection, use and care of personal protective equipment
2. your role and responsibilities in long reining harness horses for exercise
3. how to check the horse is fit to be long reined, and recognise signs of ill-health, lameness or injury, which would affect the horse's welfare if worked
4. the aims and purposes of long reining harness horses
5. how to use voice aids when long reining harness horses, and the importance of reinforcing the horse's familiarity with voice aids
6. the places that are commonly used when long reining harness horses
7. how to long rein harness horses to a halt and maintain a halt on long reins
8. how to rein back
9. the purposes of being able to halt and rein back the horse
10. how to assess the horse's responses to the long reining exercises
11. how to achieve the changes of pace and gait on long reins using voice aids
12. how to handle the reins and lunge whip correctly while long reining
13. the purpose of passing the outside rein around the horse's hindquarters while long reining in a circle
14. how to maintain control of the harness horse at all times
15. the risks to horses, yourself and others and how these can be minimised
16. your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice.

## Long rein harness horses for exercise under supervision

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**Relevant Occupations** Equine Assistant

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**Suite** Equine

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