

## Overview

This standard covers the handling and control of an equine so that work can be undertaken safely and risks to the equine and anyone involved in the work including yourself is minimised. You will be able to assess the risks involved, identify methods of handling and control for the equine you are working on and use these methods safely. You will be able to take account of factors that may affect equine behaviour. You will need to communicate with a responsible person to agree the requirements for handling and control. You will be able to select and use the correct tools and equipment and maintain the welfare of the equine and the safety of anyone involved in the work including yourself.

You need to be aware of your own limitations and confirm that you meet the relevant legal responsibilities for providing your duty of care under animal health and welfare legislation, codes of practice and policies of the business.

The responsible person can be anyone who has responsibility for the equine such as the owner, trainer, groom or hoof care practitioner.

This standard is for UK Equine Hoof Care practitioners.

## Performance criteria

### *You must be able to:*

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1. work professionally and ethically and within the limits of your authority, expertise, training, competence and experience
2. comply with the relevant animal health and welfare and animal-related legislation and associated codes of practice
3. carry out your work in accordance with the relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and policies of the business
4. select and wear suitable clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE)
5. maintain hygiene and biosecurity in accordance with the relevant legislation and business practice
6. select a method of handling and control required for the equine, in order to minimise risks to the equine and anyone involved in the work, including yourself
7. discuss and agree the handling and control requirements with the responsible person in order for the task to be carried out
8. approach the equine in a manner that promotes animal welfare, reduces distress to the equine and maintains health and safety
9. adapt the handling and control of the equine in response to its reactions and behaviour
10. adopt a working position that is safe for the equine and for yourself
11. confirm that the health and welfare of the equine is maintained throughout the task
12. confirm that your interaction with the equine does not adversely affect its behaviour
13. maintain communication with all those involved in, or affected by your work
14. confirm that records are completed, maintained and

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stored as required by the relevant legislation and business practice

## Knowledge and understanding

### *You need to know and understand:*

1. your professional responsibilities and the need to maintain professional competence
2. your responsibilities under the relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and the policies of your business
3. your responsibilities under current animal health and welfare legislation, other relevant animal regulations and codes of practice, and the legal limitations of the current Veterinary Surgeons Act with regard to diagnosis and treatment of disease or injury
4. the type of clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) suitable for the activity
5. the importance of maintaining hygiene and biosecurity and the methods for achieving these
6. how to recognise that your behaviour will represent training to the equine and how your behaviour may impact on the behaviour of the equine
7. the different reasons why an equine may require handling and control and how these might affect the handling and control method selected
8. the range of different methods of handling and control
9. how to select and plan the relevant method of handling and control for the equine you are working with
10. how to assess the risks inherent in the handling and controlling of an equine
11. the factors that may cause distress or alarm in an equine
12. how to recognise and assess the signs of distress and alarm in an equine
13. how to identify situations or conditions where it is not suitable for a person to approach, handle or control an equine without assistance and the possible consequences of doing so
14. how to identify a suitable working environment in which to handle and control the equine
15. how to identify working positions that will reduce the risk to your health and safety
16. how to approach, lift, hold and work with the hooves of the equine
17. the safe working limits within the hoof and limb
18. the precautions to be taken to prevent injury to the equine
19. how to recognise when the equine would benefit from interim training

- 20. the importance of maintaining communication with those involved in, or affected by, your work and how this should be done
- 21. the records that need to be kept and the importance of completing them in accordance with the relevant legislation and business practice

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## Glossary

Equine: a horse or other member of the horse family including donkeys, mules, hinnies and asses. Equine Behaviour: factors that may affect equine behaviour are: Age Breed Environment Experiences External influences

Communication: you need to communicate to verify:  
the safety of anyone involved in or affected by your work the welfare of the equine you are working on the relevant equipment is selected and used"

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**Suite** Equine Barefoot Care, Farriery, Veterinary paraprofessional activities

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