



National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Horse Care: Horse Transportation: An Introduction
(SCQF level 5)

Unit code: FV9T 11

Superclass: SH

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Version: 02

Summary

The purpose of this Unit is to provide candidates with the knowledge and skills required to safely prepare a horse and vehicle for transportation. This will involve ensuring that the welfare requirements of the horse are met through safe handling practices when loading and unloading, preparation of the horse for transport and an awareness of the requirements and effects on the horse when travelling. This Unit will also include safe preparation of the vehicle and an introduction to current legislation surrounding transportation of horses. Current health and safety regulations and safe working practices will be adhered to at all times.

This is an optional Unit within the National Certificate in Horse Care (SCQF level 5) but is also available for candidates wishing to study the Unit on its own.

Outcomes

- 1 Prepare a vehicle to transport the horse.
- 2 Prepare a horse for travel.
- 3 Assist with loading and unloading a horse.
- 4 Describe the requirements of the horse during and following transportation.

Recommended entry

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would normally be expected to have experience of horse handling.

National Unit specification: general information (cont)

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Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 5: (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5*)

*SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.

Core Skills

Achievement of this Unit gives automatic certification of the following Core Skills component:

- ◆ Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5

There are also opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills which are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit specification.

National Unit specification: statement of standards

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Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

Outcome 1

Prepare a vehicle to transport a horse.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Describe the required equipment for a specified journey and justify the importance of each.
- (b) Identify vehicle checks required prior to travel.
- (c) Identify vehicle requirements in relation to current legislation.
- (d) Prepare the vehicle to enable safe loading of the horse.

Outcome 2

Prepare a horse for travel.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Prepare the horse adequately prior to the application of equipment.
- (b) Identify equipment required to safely travel the horse.
- (c) Apply a selection of equipment required to safely travel the horse.

Outcome 3

Assist with loading and unloading a horse.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Assist in loading a horse.
- (b) Assist in unloading a horse.
- (c) Describe equipment and methods required to assist when loading a problem horse.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Outcome 4

Describe the requirements of the horse during and following transportation.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify the requirements of the horse during transportation to ensure that the welfare of the horse is not compromised.
- (b) Identify the requirements of the horse following transportation and explain the importance of each.
- (c) Describe common signs of stress that can be seen in the horse during and following transportation and describe how these should be managed.

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Written and/or oral recorded evidence and performance evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidates have achieved all of the Outcomes and Performance Criteria. The evidence should be produced under supervised conditions and must include:

Outcome 1

- ◆ Description of a minimum of five pieces of equipment for the specified journey and justification of the importance of each. These should include bridle, rug, first aid kit, water and feed resources such as hay or haylage.
- ◆ Identification of five vehicle safety checks required prior to travel in relation to current legislation. These should include checking the floor is safe for travel, partitions or walls are free from any sharp or dangerous areas that could cause potential injury, tyres for damage and tread, hinges, locks and windows are in good working order and there is a secure yet safe system to tie the horse to.
- ◆ Description of the licensing and insurance requirements that must be followed in accordance with current legislation.
- ◆ Preparation of one vehicle to enable loading of a horse including ensuring the surrounding area is safe, ramps, partitions, doors and breast bars if applicable are correctly prepared to allow safe loading.
- ◆ Recommendation of correct care protocol for the horse in relation to current legislation.

Outcome 2

- ◆ Preparation of the horse adequately prior to the application of equipment including grooming of the coat, picking the feet out and ensuring the mane and tail are clean this should also include correct safe handling protocol whilst carrying out all tasks.
- ◆ Identification and application of 6 pieces of equipment that can be used to safely travel the horse. These should include travel bandages, gamgee or pads for use under bandages, travel boots, tail bandage, tail guard, and poll guard.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Outcome 3

- ◆ Participation in loading one quiet horse with assistance ensuring that the handler and assistants safety is not jeopardised at any time and the horse is appropriately and safely handled throughout, being secured once loaded.
- ◆ Participate in unloading one quiet horse with assistance ensuring that the handler's and assistant's safety is not jeopardised at any time and the horse is appropriately and safely handled throughout.
- ◆ Description of a minimum of two pieces of equipment and two methods that can be utilised to assist when loading a problem horse. These should include a bridle and chifney as equipment and using feed and loading other horses first as methods.

Outcome 4

- ◆ Identification of a minimum of four requirements of the horse during transportation to ensure that the welfare of the horse is not compromised. These should include adequate ventilation, water and feed requirements, necessary breaks or stops in travelling throughout the journey and temperature control of the horse such as through the use of rugs.
- ◆ Identification of a minimum of four requirements of the horse following transportation and explain the importance of each. These should include water intake, feeding, health checks and ensuring the horse is comfortable such as bedding down.
- ◆ Description of common signs of stress that can be seen in the horse during and following transportation which should include dehydration and lethargy and a description of how these should be managed.

National Unit specification: support notes

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This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is an optional Unit within the National Certificate in Horse Care (SCQF level 5), but can also be taken as a free-standing Unit.

In this Unit candidates are required to show practical ability and knowledge in relation to transportation of the horse. They will learn about preparation of the vehicle and the horse ensuring safety is adhered to at all times. Outcomes will also cover the effect of travel on the horse and management methods during and following transportation. An outline of surrounding legislation will be identified to include licensing, insurance, vehicle and horse requirements.

Candidates would benefit from having knowledge and/or skills in basic horse handling. This Unit is aligned to the following Equine Industry National Occupational Standards (LANTRA):

- ◆ CU42 Load and Unload Horses for Transport
- ◆ CU43 Maintain the Health and Well-being of Animals During Transport

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

For Outcome 1 and 2 candidates would benefit from tutor demonstrations on how to prepare vehicles and horses for transport with hands on practical activities following. Learners should be encouraged to practice with equipment, with both horse and vehicle under supervision to ensure that they are familiar. Group tasks could be utilised to allow adequate time for practical activities. For Outcome 1 visualising and/or working practically with several different types of vehicle used to transport horses would be useful if available however the candidate should only be assessed with which ever vehicle they are most familiar with.

For Outcome 3 candidates could take the role of assistant and handler when unloading and loading the horse so that they become familiar with what is required in each role incorporating the importance of communication and teamwork skills. Again practical experience with different types of vehicle would be beneficial if available but the assessment should be with the vehicle the candidate is most familiar with.

When teaching Outcome 4 candidates would benefit from visualising, in pictorial or video format, actual scenarios whereby horses are displaying stress during and/or following transport. Time and resource permitting this could take the form of actually transporting horses to a destination and recording behaviour throughout the process.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

The following approaches to assessment are suggested:

Outcome 1	Practical exercise and oral interview and/or written question paper.
Outcome 2	Practical exercise and oral interview and/or written question paper.
Outcome 3	Practical exercise.
Outcome 4	Oral interview and/or written question paper.

It is suggested that a question paper for Outcomes 4 is integrated in the format of short answer questions; further inclusion of necessary questions from Outcome 1 and 2 may also be included to provide a paper taking no longer than 1 hour.

Practical exercises may be completed individually by Outcome or candidates could be given a scenario with adjacent checklists and asked to prepare the vehicle, prepare the horse and then load and unload the horse with assistance to provide a more holistic approach to assessment.

Opportunities for the use of e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

In this Unit candidates will safely prepare a horse and vehicle for transportation. This will involve ensuring that the welfare requirements of the horse are met through safe handling practices when loading and unloading, preparation of the horse for transport and an awareness of the requirements and effects on the horse when travelling. This Unit will also include safe preparation of the vehicle and an introduction to current legislation surrounding transportation of horses.

Candidates will:

- ◆ select the correct equipment for transporting horses and explain their reasons for this
- ◆ prepare horse to travel and explain what they are doing and their reasons for this
- ◆ participate in loading and unloading horses safely with others
- ◆ explain the legislation that needs to be followed when transporting horses safely

As candidates are doing this Unit they will be developing aspects of the Core Skills in *Communication, Problem Solving* and *Working with Others*.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Core Skills Component Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5 embedded.	29/09/2011

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