

Unit 5: Prepare Horses for Presentation

Unit code: K/601/2513
QCF Level 3: BTEC National
Credit value: 5
Guided learning hours: 30

● Aim and purpose

This unit aims to provide learners with an understanding of the principles of horse presentation and how these can be applied in practice. This unit is primarily aimed at learners within a centre-based setting looking to progress into the sector or further education and training.

● Unit introduction

The horse industry requires employees who are practical and able to demonstrate a sympathetic, consistent and logical approach towards the horses in their care. Those employed to look after horses must have the knowledge and skills to provide safe, efficient and effective routines to ensure the wellbeing of the horses in their care.

This unit provides the knowledge and skills required to adopt safe working practices and develop a confident and adaptable approach to horses. Practical competence is necessary and learners will develop an understanding of caring for the wellbeing of the horse.

Learners will develop the theoretical and practical skills of preparing and presenting horses. They will be required to prepare and present horses in an efficient and effective manner for presentation and inspection. Learners will demonstrate how horses are clipped and trimmed, demonstrating their practical ability in this area.

● Learning outcomes

On completion of this unit a learner should:

- 1 Be able to prepare horses for presentation
- 2 Know how to prepare and present a horse for public presentation.

Unit content

1 Be able to prepare horses for presentation

Preparation: washing; grooming for public presentation; pulling manes and tails; plaiting manes and tails (eg thread, rubber bands)

Clipping and trimming techniques: types of clips (eg full, blanket, hunter, trace, chaser); trimming (eg ears, whiskers, feathers, tail); methods of restraint during clipping; health and safety; personal protective equipment (PPE)

Presentation: standing for inspection; correct tack and equipment; handler's equipment and presentation; health and safety

2 Know how to prepare and present a horse for public presentation

Preparation procedures: washing; trimming; clipping; grooming for a range of circumstances; plaiting manes and tails (thread and rubber bands); tail bandages and other tail protection; health and safety; PPE

Presentation: standing for inspection; correct tack and equipment; handler's equipment and presentation

Assessment and grading criteria

In order to pass this unit, the evidence that the learner presents for assessment needs to demonstrate that they can meet all the learning outcomes for the unit. The assessment criteria for a pass grade describe the level of achievement required to pass this unit.

Assessment and grading criteria		
To achieve a pass grade the evidence must show that the learner is able to:	To achieve a merit grade the evidence must show that, in addition to the pass criteria, the learner is able to:	To achieve a distinction grade the evidence must show that, in addition to the pass and merit criteria, the learner is able to:
P1 wash and groom horses to a standard for public presentation	M1 prepare and present a selected horse for inspection to meet given objectives within agreed timescales	D1 evaluate the preparation and presentation of given horses, making appropriate recommendations for improvement.
P2 pull and plait manes and tails		
P3 trim horses and demonstrate clipping techniques [TW]		
P4 present a horse for public presentation [EP]		
P5 describe the procedure for washing and grooming a horse for public presentation [IE]	M2 explain the clipping and trimming carried out with selected horses to meet given objectives.	
P6 describe the equipment and technique needed to pull and plait manes and tails		
P7 describe the preparation and procedure for clipping a horse.		

PLTS: This summary references where applicable in the pass criteria, in the square brackets, the elements of the personal, learning and thinking skills. It identifies opportunities for learners to demonstrate effective application of the referenced elements of the skills.

Key	IE – independent enquirers	RL – reflective learners	SM – self-managers
	CT – creative thinkers	TW – team workers	EP – effective participators

Essential guidance for tutors

Delivery

Delivery of this unit will involve practical assessments, written assessment, visits to suitable collections and will link to work experience placements.

Learners will be required to prepare and present a horse for inspection. Learners may benefit from a visit to a horse show, race meeting, sale or competition to examine the requirements for turn out first hand. A lecture or demonstration from an industry professional, such as a showing judge or competition groom, may add to learners' knowledge and understanding in terms of the standards required or methods used.

Outline learning plan

The outline learning plan has been included in this unit as guidance and can be used in conjunction with the programme of suggested assignments.

The outline learning plan gives **an indication of the volume of learning it would take the average learner** to achieve the learning outcomes. It is **indicative and is one way of achieving the credit value**.

Learning time should address all learning (including assessment) relevant to the learning outcomes, regardless of where, when and how the learning has taken place.

Topic and suggested assignments/activities and/assessment
Horse washing and grooming – practical sessions to agreed standards.
Horse mane and tail pulling and plaiting – practical sessions to agreed standards.
Horse presentation – theory session on presentation of horses for different events.
Assignment 1: Prepare and Present a Horse for Inspection (P1, P2, P3, P5, P6, M1, D1) Tutor introduces the assignment. Practical assessment.
Horse washing and grooming procedures – theory sessions covering knowledge of techniques and processes.
Horse mane and tail pulling and plaiting – theory sessions covering knowledge of techniques and equipment.
Horse clipping and trimming – theory session on clipping and trimming techniques and purposes.
Assignment 2: Assist with the Clipping of a Horse (P7, M2) Tutor introduces the assignment. Practical and oral assessment.
Unit review.

Assessment

P1, P2, P3 and P4 require learners to wash and groom a horse for presentation including pulling, plaiting, trimming and clipping. Tutors should identify the horse or agree it through discussion with learners. Where possible, to ensure assessment is fair, the size and complexity of the task should be the same for all learners. This could be assessed directly by the tutor during practical activities. If this format is used then suitable evidence from guided activities would be observation records completed by learners and the tutor, report sheets and video or photographic evidence. If assessed during a placement, witness statements should be provided by a suitable representative and verified by the tutor.

For P5, learners need to describe the procedures for washing and grooming. P6 requires learners to describe the equipment and techniques needed to pull and plait manes and tails. Learners should cover a minimum of three different horses for P5 and P6.

For P7, learners will need to describe the preparation and procedures for clipping for a given situation. Learners will be able to identify types of clips and how they apply to a range of horses. They should be able to show that they are familiar with the principles of clipping horses, including health and safety considerations and the equipment required. Evidence for P5, P6 and P7 could be generated through oral questioning during practical activities. Suitable evidence would be report sheets completed by the tutor and countersigned by learners.

For M1, learners must prepare and present a selected horse for inspection to meet given objectives within agreed timescales. Tutors should identify the horses and objectives or agree these through discussion with learners. Where possible, to ensure assessment is fair the size and complexity of the tasks should be the same for all learners. This could follow the assessment format suggested for P2. The evidence produced must cover the range and breadth of the unit content. Evidence gained from work-related placements could assist in achieving this grading criterion.

For M2, learners must explain the clipping and trimming carried out with selected horses to meet given objectives. Tutors should identify a minimum of three horses and suitable objectives or agree these through discussion with learners. Learners must reference issues to consider when clipping and trimming a difficult horse. Where possible, to ensure assessment is fair the size and complexity of the tasks should be the same for all learners. This could be evidenced through practical assessment and assignment work or appropriate questioning to confirm learner understanding of each process.

D1 requires learners to evaluate the preparation and presentation of a selected horse and make appropriate recommendations for improvement. Tutors should identify a minimum of two horses for evaluation or agree this through discussion with learners. This is likely to be related to activities carried out for P1, P2, P3 and M1. Where possible, to ensure assessment is fair, the size and complexity of the tasks should be the same for all learners. Evidence could be a presentation or project that links P1, P2, P3 and M1.

Programme of suggested assignments

The following table shows a programme of suggested assignments that cover the pass, merit and distinction criteria in the grading grid. This is for guidance and it is recommended that centres either write their own assignments or adapt any Edexcel assignments to meet local needs and resources.

Criteria covered	Assignment title	Scenario	Assessment method
P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, M1, D1	Prepare and Present a Horse for Inspection	Preparation of a horse for a given purpose within agreed timescales eg showing class, sale, trot-up, dressage competition.	Practical assessment.
P7, M2	Assist with the Clipping of a Horse	Assist with the clipping of a horse, and explain the types of clips suitable for a range of situations and how to manage a horse that is difficult to clip.	Practical assessment. Oral questioning.

Links to National Occupational Standards, other BTEC units, other BTEC qualifications and other relevant units and qualifications

This unit forms part of the BTEC land-based sector suite. This unit has particular links with:

Level 2	Level 3
Undertake Horse Grooming, Trimming and Plaiting	303.3 Clip horses
Introduction to Caring for Competition Horses	Understand the Principles of Horse Behaviour and Welfare

Essential resources

Learners should gain experience of a realistic working environment and have sufficient opportunity to develop their practical competence and confidence over a period of time.

Physical resources needed include areas for demonstrating practical skills and an area suitable for clipping a horse safely will be required. Tutors delivering this unit should be competent and experienced horse handlers with an up-to-date knowledge of first aid and health and safety at work. Ideally, they should have recent industrial experience within the horse industry and show evidence of regular contact with the industry and updating of knowledge.

Employer engagement and vocational contexts

This unit focuses on the practical aspects of horse grooming. Centres are encouraged to create and develop links with local yards and horse producers. Learners will benefit from guest lectures or visits to horse shows or sales to observe the requirements for horse turnout firsthand. Learners should be encouraged to undertake practical work experience in order to develop their practical skills in horse preparation and presentation.

Indicative reading for learners

Textbooks

Auty I and Batty-Smith J – *The BHS Complete Manual of Horse and Stable Management* (Kenilworth Press, 2008) ISBN 1905693184

Cave, M – *Course Companion for BHS stages III and IV* (J A Allen, 1999) ISBN 0851316565

Cooper B – *The Manual of Horsemanship: The Official Manual of the Pony Club, Thirteenth Edition* (The Pony Club, 2006) ISBN 0954886313

Edwards E – *Ultimate Horse Book, Third Edition* (Dorling Kindersley, 2002) ISBN 0751344486

McBane S – *The Essential Book of Horse Tack and Equipment* (David & Charles, 2002) ISBN 0715313894

Pocklington, A – *The Essential Guide to Professional Horse Care* (J A Allen, 2004) ISBN 0851318681

Rose M and Auty – *The Horsemaster's Notebook, Fourth Edition* (Kenilworth Press, 2006) ISBN 1872082920

Magazines

Horse and Hound

Your Horse

Websites

www.aht.org.uk

www.bef.co.uk

www.bhs.org.uk

www.defra.gov.uk

www.hse.gov.uk

www.horseandhound.co.uk

Animal Health Trust

British Equestrian Federation

British Horse Society

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Health and Safety Executive

Horse and Hound

Delivery of personal, learning and thinking skills (PLTS)

The following table identifies the PLTS opportunities that have been included within the assessment criteria of this unit:

Skill	When learners are ...
Independent enquirers	researching horse washing and grooming techniques
Team workers	working with others to trim and clip selected horses
Effective participators	discussing issues of concern during the presentation of horses.

Although PLTS opportunities are identified within this unit as an inherent part of the assessment criteria, there are further opportunities to develop a range of PLTS through various approaches to teaching and learning.

Skill	When learners are ...
Creative thinkers	questioning given assumptions about horse presentation and preparation
Reflective learners	considering different presentation equipment and techniques depending on horse needs
Self-managers	organising own time when preparing a horse for public presentation.

● Functional Skills – Level 2

Skill	When learners are ...
ICT – Find and select information	
Select and use a variety of sources of information independently for a complex task	researching techniques used to prepare horses for presentation
Access, search for, select and use ICT-based information and evaluate its fitness for purpose	
Select and use ICT to communicate and exchange information safely, responsibly and effectively including storage of messages and contact lists	
English	
Speaking and listening – make a range of contributions to discussions and make effective presentations in a wide range of contexts	discussing techniques used to prepare horses for presentation.
Reading – compare, select, read and understand texts and use them to gather information, ideas, arguments and opinions	
Writing – write documents, including extended writing pieces, communicating information, ideas and opinions, effectively and persuasively	