

# Tandivale Equestrian Centre

Providing Comprehensive Equestrian Education since 1976

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## CERTIFICATE 2 ASSESSMENT REQUEST

On attainment of Certificate 2 the student will have developed good practical skills and knowledge in the following areas:

### Knowledge

- Read the body language of the horse using the tail, eyes, legs and other movements.
- Identify the parts of the hoof (wall, frog, sole and heel).
- Explain the importance of regular care of the feet.
- Understand the pattern of footfalls of the walk and trot whilst unmounted.
- Explain how to measure the height of the horse.

### Practical

- Provide feed to the horse safely.
- Provide water to the horse at an appropriate time, showing an understanding of watering rules.
- Saddle the horse.
- Tie a quick release knot onto hayband.
- Demonstrate how to move the horse over safely.

### Riding

- Recognise the movement of each leg at the walk.
- Demonstrate a change of rein at the walk.
- Trot the long side of the arena unassisted.
- Trot through a set of weaving cones.
- Ride in the opposite direction to another rider, passing on the correct side.
- Demonstrate the correct position when walking up and down hills.

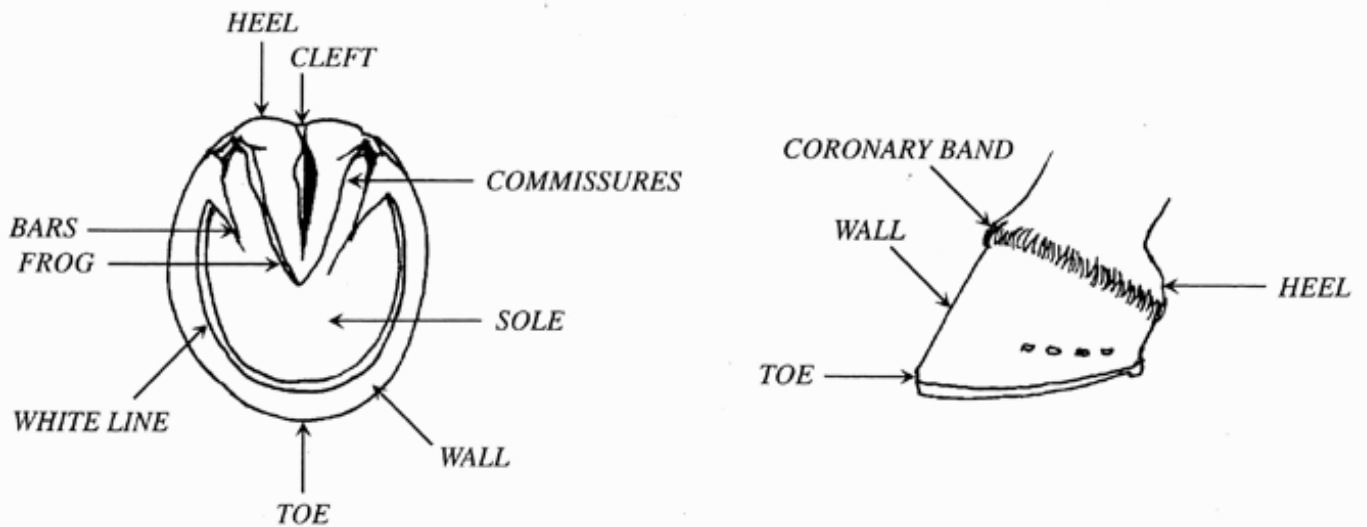
*Use the checkboxes to mark your own progress. When you're confident you meet all the criteria you may apply for an assessment. Complete the below and submit this Assessment Request to your instructor or scan and return to us by email. Assessment applications must be made by Week 7 in order to be assessed in the current Term. No assessments will be conducted without application.*

**I'm ready! STUDENT NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

## PARTS OF THE HOOF

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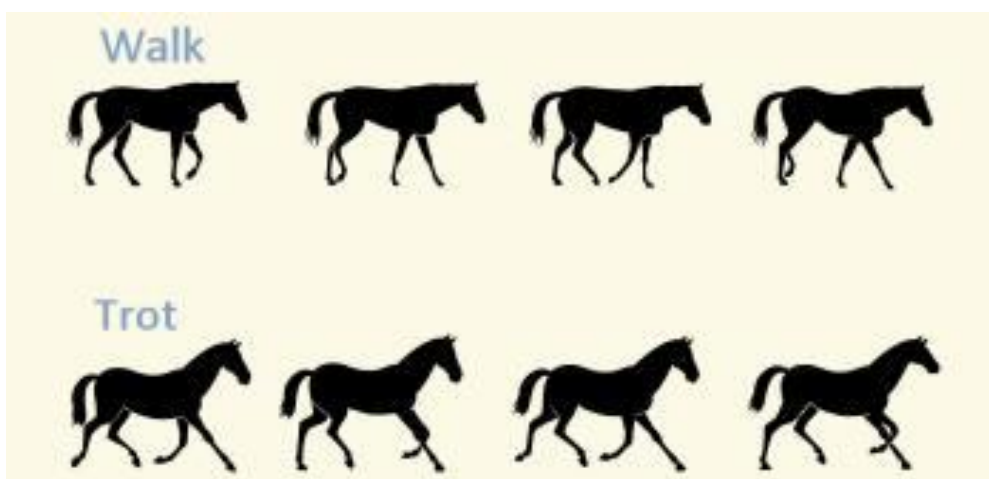


## CARE OF THE HOOVES

Caring for a horse's hooves is an important part of maintaining their overall health. Hooves are susceptible to a number of problems that can cause temporary or permanent lameness, so it's important they are checked regularly. Ensuring the hooves are trimmed to the right length helps to keep the hoof healthy and the horse comfortably balanced. A horse trimmed too short will be sore whilst a horse with a long toe is prone to tripping. As you pick out stones, manure and other dirt from the hooves, check for the following indicators of hoof health:

- A dark spot on the sole can indicate a bruise, puncture wound or burst abscess.
- A healthy frog is slightly spongy.
- If the horse is shod, the shoe should be held on firmly with no loose nails.
- A bad smell and ooze from the frog indicates a bacterial infection (thrush).
- Cracks in the hoof. Most cracks are minor but some can interfere with the growth of the hoof wall.

## FOOTFALLS AT THE WALK AND TROT



## FEEDING SAFELY

Care must be taken when providing feed to horses as they can become quite keen to get their noses in a bucket! They may also show aggression to other horses if they feel their feed supply is being threatened.

If the horse is tied up, put the bucket directly under its nose, making sure it can reach. Also make sure only one horse can reach the bucket so no fights break out. If the bucket needs to be hung up, it may be helpful to let the horse have a mouthful, then hang it up whilst the horse is pre-occupied.

## WATER

A constant supply of clean, fresh water is an essential element in good horse care. Things like air temperature, workload, feed (type and quantity), size and the horse's general health affects the amount of water each horse needs. The average 15hh horse will drink between 30 and 50 litres of water per day.

There are two main reasons why horses need so much water.

1. Their naturally high fibre diet (grass, hay etc.) requires high levels of water to help keep the fibre moving through the digestive system. If horses have restricted access to water or have only poor quality water and do not drink enough they are at risk of impaction colic (where fibre blocks the digestive system). Colic (in its various forms) can be a very serious condition in horses. Impaction colic needs immediate veterinary attention.
2. Horses are one of the few animals (including humans) that rely on sweating to cool themselves down. This requires lots of water so when horses are working hard it is especially important that they do not have their access to water restricted or the horse will become dehydrated.

Buckets or automatic waterers can be used in stables & paddocks. Automatic waterers are convenient, but it is difficult to monitor how much water your horse is drinking should you need to. Some horses won't know how to use them at first, or some won't like them because of the noise some waterers make. Buckets are easier to clean, but heavier to carry and can be spilt unless safely secured.

## MEASURING HEIGHT

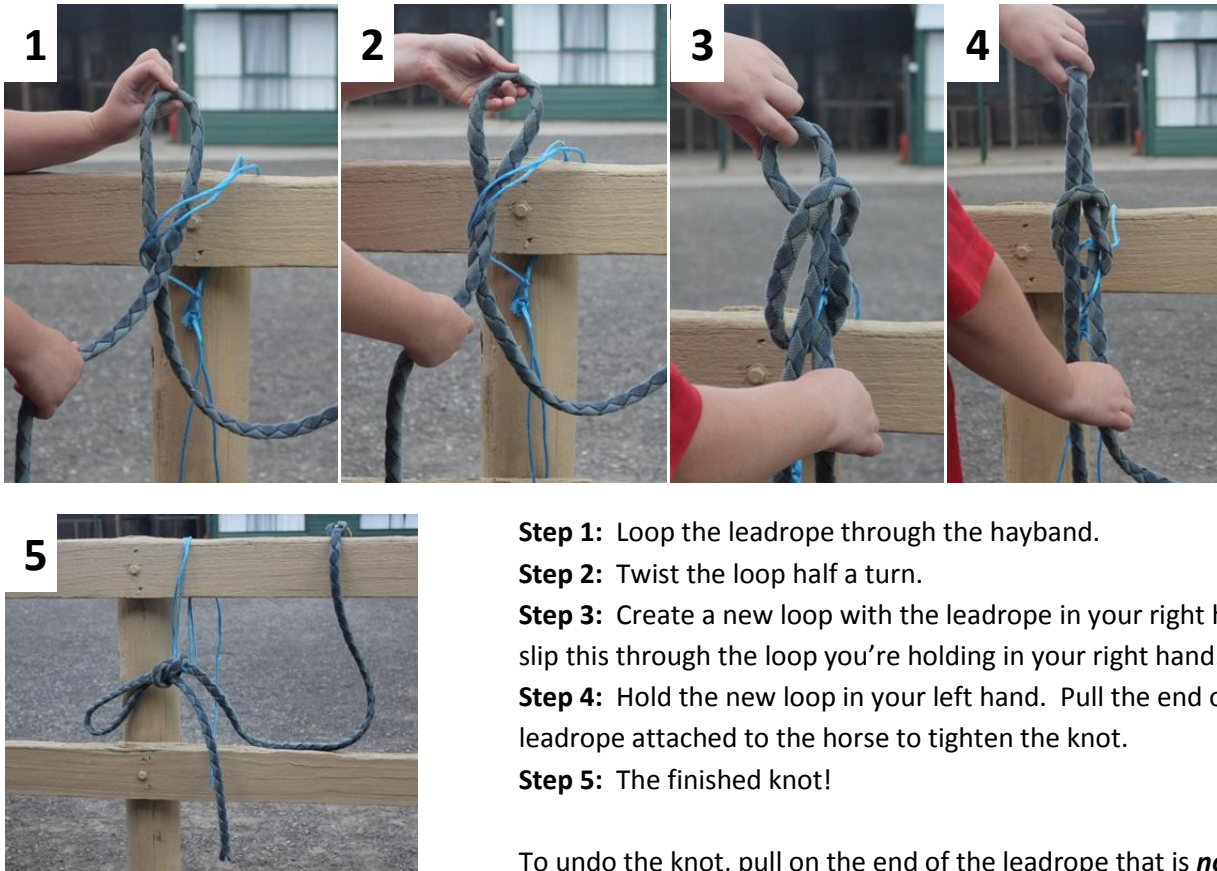
There are a few instruments that you can use to measure a horse's height. The most accurate and easiest is to use a proper height measuring stick. This is a tall stick, marked with measurements with a horizontal bar that slides up and down the stick.

To measure a horse, have him stand square on a level surface. Hold the measuring stick alongside the horse's shoulder, and slide the horizontal bar down until it touches the top of the horse's wither. Take note of the horse's height.

A horse's height is measured in hands. One hand is 4 inches. The measuring stick will identify number of hands and inches. A horse that measures 14.2 hh (hands high) will be 14 hands and 2 inches tall. A horse that measures 12.3hh will be 12 hands and 3 inches tall.

## THE 'QUICK RELEASE' KNOT

When tying horses we use a 'quick release' knot because sometimes we need to get the horse untied very quickly! A good quick release knot can be undone from a slight distance which is safer if you need to untie a horse in a hurry.



**Step 1:** Loop the leadrope through the hayband.

**Step 2:** Twist the loop half a turn.

**Step 3:** Create a new loop with the leadrope in your right hand and slip this through the loop you're holding in your right hand.

**Step 4:** Hold the new loop in your left hand. Pull the end of the leadrope attached to the horse to tighten the knot.

**Step 5:** The finished knot!

To undo the knot, pull on the end of the leadrope that is *not* attached to the horse.

## BODY LANGUAGE

Learn to better understand what horses communicate in their actions, their body language and how they verbalise. All good horse training requires a thorough understanding of behavior and language to achieve successful and caring outcomes. Usually, several body language signs as well as what's going on in the immediate environment needs to be taken into consideration in order to understand the mood of the horse. For example, a horse with its head raised may just be interested in something, but if it also has flared nostrils and is showing the whites of its eyes, it's more likely to be afraid.

<b>Tail</b>	Soft and hanging loose	Relaxed, happy
	Clamped against its rump	Fear, pain
	Swishing	Irritated, angry (or shooing flies!)
<b>Mouth</b>	Soft and floppy	Relaxed, happy
	Wrinkled and 'pursed'	Irritated, angry
	Bared teeth	Aggressive, unhappy
<b>Eyes</b>	Half closed, soft	Relaxed, happy
	Intense look, showing whites	Fear, anger
<b>Feet</b>	Light stamping	Discomfort, agitated or excited and eager to move.
	Hard stomping	Fear, anger
<b>Nose</b>	Flared nostrils	Fear, excitement
<b>Head</b>	Relaxed & hanging low	Relaxed, happy
	Raised	Interested in something
<b>Horse sounds</b>	Sigh	Relaxation, contentment or boredom
	Nicker	Welcome, seeking attention
	Groan	Pain, exertion (eg. When jumping)
	Snort	Excitement, fear. Or blowing its nose!
	Neigh	Depends on other body language signs
<b>Legs</b>	Rested hind leg	Relaxed
	Waving hind leg	Aggressive horse threatening to kick (or shooing flies!)