

# Tandivale Equestrian Centre

Providing Comprehensive Equestrian Education since 1976

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## CERTIFICATE 6 ASSESSMENT REQUEST

On attainment of Certificate 6 the student will have developed good practical skills and knowledge in the following areas:

### Knowledge

- Demonstrate a basic understanding of hoof care:
  - Identify when the horse needs re-shoeing
  - Describe the basic shoeing procedure
  - Recognise & know the purpose of farrier's tools
- Explain how to care for a stabled horse and a standard stable routine.
- Describe common vices of the horse, outlining their causes and possible solutions.

### Practical

- Correctly clean and assemble a bridle identifying common areas of wear.
- Adjust a bridle to fit the horse.
- Fit 1 of the common nosebands (drop, cavesson, hannovarian).
- Safely lead a horse through a gateway and turn out into an occupied field.

### Riding

- Identify both canter leads.
- Demonstrate a walk and trot bareback.
- Identify the number of strides between two poles (trot and canter)
- Demonstrate a 3 loop serpentine at the trot.
- Adjust the girth while mounted.

*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** \_\_\_\_\_






## HOOF CARE

Horse's hooves should be checked each day as early action can prevent many common hoof problems. When picking out hooves make sure all dirt is removed from the edges of the frog and the sole, as you'll then be able to see the entire hoof.

Know what's normal for your horse. Have an idea of the color, shape, texture, temperature and softness or hardness of your horse's hooves. You'll then be able to identify when things are changing, and look out for these common hoof problems: Thrush, Abscess, Cracks, Puncture, Bruise.

Establish a regular shoeing or trimming cycle. Each horse will grow hoof at a slightly different rate but the average trimming cycle is 6 – 8 weeks. It could be less for problematic hooves. If your horse is shod, check the shoes daily for signs of wear such as risen clinches, worn clips or shifted shoes. These are signs your horse needs to be re-shod.

When a horse is re-shod the farrier will first remove the old shoes and thoroughly clean the hoof. He/she will then determine the ideal length and shape of the hoof and go about trimming the hoof to size. The frog and heel will be trimmed. The trim is usually finished off with the rasp to trim the sole and round over edges. The shoe is then tested against the hoof for fit and adjusted if necessary. When the farrier is satisfied the shoe is the correct shape for the hoof they nail it on. The pointy end of the nails are nipped off, rasped smooth and bent over. A final rasp over the wall finishes the job.

Name		Purpose
<b>Buffer or Clinch Cutter</b>		Cuts the clinches before removing a shoe from a hoof.
<b>Nail pullers</b>		Pulls nails out of shoes.
<b>Shoe Pullers</b>		Pulls shoes off a hoof, once the clinches have been cut.
<b>Hoof testers</b>		Tests for any soreness or softness in the sole or hoof which might indicate a bruise or abscess.
<b>Nippers</b>		Cuts excess length from the hoof.

<b>Hoof knife</b>		Trims the softer parts of the hoof such as the frog and heel.
<b>Rasp</b>		Files excess hoof off the sole and also smooths over hoof trimmed with nippers. Where the nippers are used to trim larger pieces of hoof, the rasp takes off a small amount at a time and can be used more precisely.
<b>Hoof Gauge</b>		Tests for correct shape and angle of the hoof wall. Ideal angle is 45degrees.
<b>Hammer</b>		Hammers nails in, or remove nails if they're not positioned correctly.
<b>Clincher</b>		Bends over the sharp end of the nails once the shoe has been nailed on the hoof.
<b>Rounding Hammer</b>		If a shoe needs to be adjusted (re-shaped) the farrier will use a rounding hammer and an anvil.
<b>Anvil</b>		

## STABLED HORSES

Stabled horses need more care than paddocked horses as they're not able to graze or exercise themselves and can develop vices due to boredom. A horse's digestive system is designed to take in small amounts of food often (horses will graze for up to 20hrs a day) so stabled horses will need adequate roughage to keep their systems healthy.

A stabled horse can easily become very bored and sour, which can lead to unwanted vices (see next section) and dangerous behaviour. It's important that the horse's mental health is assessed daily and their routine adjusted, eg. Give them more time outside, if they are becoming unhappy. An acceptable daily routine would include:

### Morning

- Pick out hooves
- Take horse out for exercise
- Muck out stable, removing urine and manure
- Feed horse, provide hay, check water

### Afternoon

- Provide feed/hay, check water

### Evening

- Pick out hooves
- Take horse out for exercise
- Remove manure from stable
- Feed horse, provide hay, check water

### Feed & water containers in stables

The entire stable floor should be clear of anything the horse can tip over, step in or hurt themselves on. Ideally water containers should be fixed to the wall and be self-filling, avoiding issues with horses tipping over their water which also wastes bedding. Feed containers can also be fixed to walls, or "hang up" type which can be removed when the horse is finished eating.

## COMMON VICES

Most times problem behaviours arise due to the way horses are managed. Problems can be caused by living conditions – are horses kept alone or in company? Are they stabled or allowed to graze in a field? Diet & poor or inconsistent training can also be the cause of problem behaviours.

Behaviour	Description & Probable Causes
Separation anxiety	The horse gets stressed or nervous about being separated from a herd or paddock mate. The horse may call out, jig-jog and be difficult to handle.
Weaving	A side to side movement of the head and neck, sometimes with the front feet coming off the ground. Can be caused by the stress of being separated or confined to a stall/stable.
Windsucking/crib biting	A repetitive behaviour where the horse arches its neck and sucks air in, often making a grunting sound. Horses can do this with or without using its teeth to "attach" to a surface for leverage.
Head shaking	The horse repetitively shakes its head for no obvious reason. Can be caused by many things including nerve pain, ear mites, allergies or dental problems.
Head shy	The horse avoids any contact with its head, particularly around the ears. Can be caused by pain or simply a learned way of avoiding contact.
Biting/Kicking	The horse attacks another horse or person with its teeth or hind legs. This is an

	aggressive behaviour and the horse is either defending itself or asserting dominance.
Pulling back	When tied the horse will lean against the leadrope to break away. The horse may do this if frightened but otherwise could be a sign that the horse is not happy to stand still.
Pawing	The horse stomps at the ground repetitively with one of its front legs. Generally a sign that the horse is not happy to stand still. They might do this while waiting for food, appearing to show impatience.
Pacing	The horse repeatedly walks a path back & forth, usually on a fence line. Can be caused by the stress of being separated.
Fence chewing	The horse chews at rails and posts, risks damaging teeth and ingesting splinters. Can be caused by boredom or inadequate diet, ie. Not enough pasture or hay available.

## BRIDLE – AREAS OF WEAR

The areas of wear are typically where the leather has already been compromised with stitching or buckle holes. Check that the stitching is tight. The buckle holes should not be too stretched or torn.

Also check the headpiece to ensure there's no tearing where the throat latch and cheek piece separate.

If the bridle uses billet hooks to attach cheek pieces and reins to the bit, check that they are firmly attached.



## REFERENCES

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