
COURSE CONTENT

Unit 406 Nosebands, bit identification and their use

Fitting Nosebands

- commonly used nosebands
- the function of different types of nosebands on the horse
- the reasons for fitting different types of noseband correctly
- fitting a selection of nosebands to a horse's head

Understanding the actions, materials and measurements of different bits

- biting groups/families
- the function of biting groups/families
- biting action pressure points on a horse's head caused by biting families and different bits
- selection of bits
- reasons for using different types of bits
- Anatomy in relation to bit fitting
- materials used in the manufacture of bits
- purpose of using different types of materials
- bit accessories and their functions
- Taking measurements of bits

Unit 407 Bespoke bridle fitting and measuring (snaffle bridle)

Developing professional relationships with clients

- ascertaining appropriate information to achieve the customer requirements
- the purpose of collecting information

Working safely

- observing safe and hygienic work practices
- appropriate risk assessments
- establishing a rapport with the horse
- health and safety standards and biosecurity relating to the examination of the horse's mouth
- signs of pain, contagious or infectious diseases
- behavioural issues
- responses to issues identified with the horse
- current legislation in relation to horse welfare

Understanding positive identification for horses

- Identifying features of horses and ponies
- documentation used as methods of ID

Structure & Anatomy

- the structure and anatomy of a horse's head in relation to bridle fitting
- the structure and anatomy of a horse's mouth in relation to bridle fitting
- abnormalities and injuries of a horse's head and mouth
- the impact of abnormalities and injuries on bridle fitting

Assessing a horse for bridle fitting

- assessment of the horse's head and mouth
- purpose of assessing head conformation

Fitting a snaffle bridle and taking measurements for adjustments to make a bespoke bridle

- implications of bit mouthpiece and ring size on the measurement process
- choice of noseband, browband, strap widths, rein style and length
- achieving best fit
- recording required adjustments including the use of photographic records
- completing a final measurement chart
- aspects of poor fit in bridles
- reasons for position and measurement of component parts
- record keeping
- regulatory documentation

Unit 408 Bridle fitting (double bridle)

How to assemble, fit and adjust a double bridle

- appropriate information to achieve the customer requirements
- selecting appropriate component parts to create a double bridle for a variety of horses
- assembly of double bridle
- checking size against horse
- adjustment of bridle to achieve best fit

Unit 409 Specialist bridles, accessories and fault finding

- Identifying a range of specialist bridles
- perceived benefits of specialist bridles
- bridle accessories
- the function of bridle accessories

Bridle Safety

- checks required on a new bridle
- reasons for carrying out checks on a new bridle
- faults that occur with bridles and bits
- the viability of carrying out bridle repairs
- checking the condition of bridles and bits