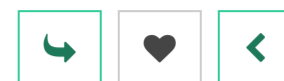


1 2 3

Horse groom



Also called: Stable hand, stable lad, stable lass, horse groomer, racing groom, equine groom

Horse grooms look after horses' everyday needs, and make sure they're healthy and in good condition.



What you'll do

Your day-to-day duties might include:

- giving horses food and water
- replacing bedding
- cleaning equipment like saddles and bridles
- cleaning, brushing and clipping horses' coats
- mucking out stables
- monitoring the condition of horses and reporting problems
- treating minor wounds, changing dressings and giving some medications
- following instructions from vets when treatment is needed

You may also be responsible for exercising the horses each day.

If you work with show jumpers or race horses, you'll prepare them for events.

In studs and breeding yards you'll work with stallions, mares and foals, and may help vets to deliver foals.

In riding schools you may greet clients, lead riders out on foot, and accompany them on horseback.

Record relevant activities you've already done on the [Activities tool](#) >

Working hours and environment

If you're full-time, you'll usually work around 40 hours a week, including early mornings. Overtime is often available, and you may be able to do part-time work, casual work, or work on a freelance basis.

You'll need to be prepared to work in cold, wet, and muddy conditions. You may spend a lot of time working on your own doing repetitive tasks, which may be physically tiring.

You'll wear protective clothing and footwear.

Career path and progression

With experience and further training, you could take charge of a yard or become head groom.

In a racing yard, you could progress to head lad or girl, travelling head lad or girl, or to assistant trainer or trainer.

On a stud farm, you could become a stud groom, stallion handler or stud manager.

If you work in a riding stable you could become a riding instructor.

Skills required

You'll need:

- to be comfortable working on your own a lot of the time
- physical endurance, as you'll be moving around or in uncomfortable positions regularly
- the practical skills to be able to clean out stables and treat wounds
- the ability to use your own initiative – for example, to report injuries or signs of illness to a vet
- to be flexible, as your schedule may change depending on breeding seasons and weather conditions

Got evidence of these skills? Record your examples on the [Skills tool](#) >

Entry requirements

There are no set entry requirements, but the following may help you get in:

- confidence around horses, perhaps through riding or volunteering on a farm
- work experience, for example as an assistant groom or helping to run equine events
- a qualification in horse care, like a diploma or certificate in equine studies or horse management

An industry body in your country may offer specialist qualifications. For example, the Certified Horsemanship Association (USA) offers an Equine Facility Manager certification. Or the British Horse Society offers an Entry Level Award in Assisting with Basic Care of Horses.

Related university subject profiles

These university subjects are related to this career; check out their profiles on the Subjects library:

- [Animal science](#) >
- [Veterinary medicine](#) >

Related career profiles

You may also be interested in:

- [Horse trainer](#) >
- [Jockey](#) >
- [Farrier](#) >

Explore

Want to see what relevant education and training opportunities are available right now? Search here:

Animal science at uni:

- USA >
- UK >
- Canada >
- Europe >
- Asia >
- Australasia >
- Middle East and Africa >
- Ireland >

Veterinary medicine at uni:

- USA >
- UK >
- Canada >
- Europe >
- Asia >
- Australasia >
- Middle East and Africa >
- Ireland >

Apprenticeships:

- UK >

Labour Market Information (LMI)

Current and predicted figures relating to the Horse groom profession. Median averages are shown, each with the specific career, or group of careers, that they apply to.

- UK
- USA

Jobs

Animal care and control services

80,659

📍 318 in your local area of Liverpool

Top 5 local areas

1	Hampshire	2,906
2	Essex	2,505
3	Kent	2,448
4	Suffolk	2,378
5	Surrey	2,320

Salaries

Animal care services occupations n.e.c.

£21,933

Animal care and control services

£22,734

📍 (Not enough data for this region) in your region of North West

Top 3 regions

1	East of England	£25,421
2	South East	£22,933

Growth

2020-2035

Caring personal service occupations

+13.9% ↑ 328,648 jobs

+17.7% in your region of North West, an increase of 52,031 jobs

Save to Favourites? ♥

You haven't favourited any Careers library profiles yet

People also liked...

Those that liked this career profile also liked the following



Horse trainer

Horse trainers manage the day-to-day running of a racing stable, looking after horses and staff, and preparing for training and races.

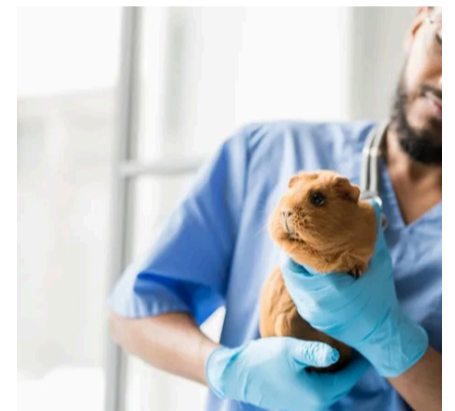
[Read the profile >](#)



Zookeeper

Zookeepers work in zoos, safari parks, or aquariums to feed, clean out, and look after animals.

[Read the profile >](#)



Animal care assistant

Animal care assistants look after animals in kennels, rescue centres, or sanctuaries.

[Read the profile >](#)