

Farriers Registration Council



Established under the
Farriers (Registration) Act 1975



**A guide to getting the best
from your Farrier**

Farriery is an essential part of the routine care of a horse. Without this regular maintenance, whether trimming or shoeing, a horse may not be able to lead a healthy life and its welfare may be jeopardised.

Farriers are qualified professionals, regulated in law by the Farriers (Registration) Act 1975, and they are expected to abide by the Farrier & Apprentice Code of Professional Conduct.

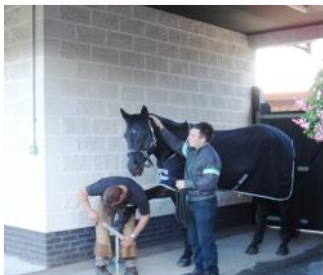
To get the best possible service for your horse from your farrier, please consider the following advice.

The environment should offer:

**A clean, dry and level standing with good light and a non-slip surface.
The area should be safe for the horse and the people attending to it.**



**Protection from rain, wind and poor weather.
The horse should also be clean and dry.**



A secure, safe ring to which the horse can be tied with a suitable breakable tie.



Split the twine so that in the event of the horse panicking the string will break and not the head collar.



A properly fitted sound head collar or halter with a good rope of adequate length.



Competent assistance with no distractions, such as mobile telephones, should be available if required by the farrier.



Your Horse

It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that their horses are used to having their legs held so that effective trimming and shoeing can be carried out without distressing the horse or putting the farrier's safety at risk. It is also worth remembering the following:

- Talk to your farrier about any concerns which may affect the handling of your horse.
- In some circumstances it may be helpful if there is a companion animal close by.
- If your horse becomes unruly your farrier may decline to trim or shoe, or to discontinue trimming or shoeing, if they consider it would be dangerous to proceed.

You can expect your Farrier to:

- Treat all horses humanely, with respect, and with welfare as the primary consideration
- Take all reasonable care in using their professional skills
- Adhere to the Farrier & Apprentice Code of Professional Conduct
- Ensure that clear information is provided about the treatment of your horse and contact arrangements
- Maintain proper standards including the use of appropriate equipment
- Respond to your enquiries within a reasonable timescale
- Keep within their own areas of competence, save for the requirement to provide emergency first aid
- Work in conjunction with the advice of a veterinary surgeon, if applicable
- Advise you when a second opinion or further professional advice may be required
- Keep their knowledge, skills and behaviours up to date by undertaking regular Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- Recognise that you have freedom of choice