

# PROFFI240 (SQA Unit Code - FE6K 04) Upholster standard items of traditional furniture



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## Overview

This standard addresses the competence required to upholster items of traditional furniture. This involves:

- 1 preparing, cutting and applying upholstery materials
- 2 trimming and finishing items of traditionally upholstered furniture
- 3 maintaining your own and others' safety while working

There is also a scope statement which defines the coverage of this standard.

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### Performance criteria

#### Fit materials to an item of traditionally upholstered furniture

*You must be able to:*

- P1 check you have the required **work specification** and that everything you need to achieve it is available
- P2 deal promptly with any problems that arise with the **tools, equipment** and **materials**, reporting any which you cannot solve
- P3 make sure that the **item to be upholstered** is protected from damage while it is being worked on
- P4 accurately position the **upholstery material**, checking that the alignment is correct, before cutting it as required to fit the item
- P5 secure the cover firmly, tensioning it to the required level
- P6 make adjustments as necessary to make sure that the visual appearance, fixing and tensioning of the cover conforms to the **specification**
- P7 secure the bottom cloth firmly and accurately to conform to visual and safety requirements
- P8 follow safe working procedures when:
  - P8.1 using sharp **tools** and items of **equipment**
  - P8.2 using powered **equipment**
  - P8.3 lifting and moving heavy items
- P9 complete the preparations within the required time
- P10 keep the work area tidy

*You must be able to:*

#### Finish an item of traditionally upholstered furniture

- P11 accurately position any specified trimmings and finishings
- P12 fix securely any specified trimmings and finishings
- P13 check and confirm that the required quality outcome has been achieved before reporting work as complete
- P14 place completed **item** in a designated location and position for safe storage
- P15 deal promptly with any **problems** that occur
- P16 report any **problems** that you cannot solve
- P17 complete the process within the required time
- P18 follow safe working procedures when:
  - P18.1 using sharp **tools** and items of **equipment**
  - P18.2 using powered **equipment**
  - P18.3 lifting and moving heavy items
- P19 keep the work area tidy and protect the item from damage while it is being worked on

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## Upholster standard items of traditional furniture

### Knowledge and understanding

#### Fit materials to an item of traditionally upholstered furniture

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 the handling characteristics of different types of materials used as upholstery covers and bottom cloths
- K2 the meaning of terms used in technical specifications for upholstery
- K3 the steps and actions needed to position and fit covers to different types of item
- K4 how to measure and cut upholstery cover materials to ensure an accurate fit within an economic level of wastage
- K5 when to use different methods to secure upholstery covers
- K6 the importance and use of the bottom cloth in upholstery
- K7 the sorts of problems that can occur during fitting covers to upholstered items and how to deal with them to meet the specification
- K8 the functions of the different types of tools and equipment that are used in upholstery
- K9 how to handle sharp and powered tools safely in ways that protect yourself and others from risk
- K10 the implications of your work of the HASAWA and COSHH Regulations, including where to find out about relevant risk assessment details and risk control strategies that have been set by your organisation
- K11 the health and safety issues that can arise if a work area is disorganised and untidy
- K12 why it is important to keep to time schedules

*You need to know and understand:*

#### Finish an item of traditionally upholstered furniture

- K13 the meaning of terms used in technical specifications for upholstery
- K14 the steps and actions needed to position and fit trimmings and finishings to different types of item
- K15 why it is important to check and confirm that the required quality outcome has been achieved before reporting the item as finished
- K16 the sorts of problems that can occur and how to deal with them to meet the specification, and who to report unsolvable problems to
- K17 the functions of the different types of tools and equipment that are used in upholstery
- K18 how to handle sharp and powered tools safely in ways that protect yourself and other from risk
- K19 the implications of your work of the HASAWA and COSHH Regulations, including where to find out about relevant risk assessment details and risk control strategies that have been set by your organisation
- K20 the health and safety issues that can arise if a work area is disorganised and untidy
- K21 why it is important to keep to time schedules

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### Additional Information

#### Scope

##### Item to be upholstered

The items to be upholstered could include any of the following:

- 1 Traditional furniture such as an armchair, which may or may not include wings
- 2 Settee
- 3 Child's chair

##### Upholstery materials

The different forms of materials used to provide padding within an upholstered item and for top covers and finishing. These include a range of different fabric types used to provide upholstery covers, including materials that require careful handling and where alignment and tensioning may require skill to achieve e.g. patterned/stripped fabrics, plain pile, vinyl, stretch fabrics and flat weave fabrics, as well as natural hide and where the specification calls for a pleated cover shape. In addition, materials include fillings such as hair/fibre as well as finishing materials used in edging, trimmings and linings and for the covering of buttons.

##### Component

The support and suspension materials used in upholstery and which require to be fixed to the frame to provide the shape and support needed. These include webbing, fibre insulation pads, platforms, springs and spring systems, traditional fillings such as hair/fibre, wadding. They may be fixed in place using staples or upholstery tacks, nails and proprietary fixings.

##### Tools and equipment

Hammers, staplers and staple removers, knives, shears and scalpels, stretching devices.

##### Work specification

The set of instructions which describe the work to be carried out, including details of the materials to be used, the quality of outcome to be achieved and time within which it must be completed. In the context of this unit, the outcome quality to be achieved requires that the following criteria be met:

- 1 All fixed components are secure
- 2 Components should be accurately centred and evenly spaced
- 3 Materials should be cut and shaped to conform to the specified design profiles
- 4 Visual appearance (including alignment of top fabrics and spacing of tacks, staples etc.)

##### Problems

In relation to preparatory work, these will be to do with non-functional or missing tools or equipment and/or missing, mismatched, damaged or unsuitable materials and components. The person carrying out this role is responsible for rejecting, replacing or rectifying these sorts of problems, reporting them when they cannot be dealt with quickly, safely and readily.

In relation to the securing of covers and other finishings, these will be to do with misalignment, incorrect tensioning, shaping errors, marks on the materials

## **PROFFI240 (SQA Unit Code - FE6K 04)**

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and/or insecure or ineffective ancillary fittings.

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**Originating organisation** Proskills

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**Relevant occupations** Paper and wood machine operatives; Furniture maker and other craft woodworkers; Upholsterers; Labourers build and woodworking trades

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**Suite** Furniture, Furnishings and Interiors

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