

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Cosmetology: Product Awareness (Intermediate 1)

CODE F0F6 10

COURSE

SUMMARY

On completion of this Unit candidates will have gained a basic knowledge of the product range, which is used within a selected practical skills area of hairdressing, beauty and related industries. Candidates will gain the knowledge and skills required for the use of the products and understand the reasons for safe and economical use, storage, handling and disposal of the products.

This Unit is suitable for those who have no previous qualifications or experience and wish to gain an introductory qualification as part of a general education or a first step to a more specialised study.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of procedures of safe storage, handling and disposal of the products used in the selected practical skills area.
- 2 Demonstrate effective and economical use of products.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

CREDIT VALUE

0.5 credit at Intermediate 1 (3 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 4*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates*

Administrative Information

Superclass: HC

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

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CORE SKILLS

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components in this Unit. Opportunities for developing aspects of Core skills are highlighted in *Guidance on Learning and Teaching Approaches*.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

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Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit Specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

OUTCOME 1

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of procedures of safe storage, handling and disposal of the products used in the selected practical skills area.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify the services to be carried out.
- (b) List the products for services identified.
- (c) Identify the steps for the procedure of safe storage, handling and disposal of the products.
- (d) Explain why it is important to follow manufacturers' instructions.

OUTCOME 2

Demonstrate effective and economical use of products.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Select appropriate product from the range identified for the service.
- (b) Use the selected products effectively, in the correct quantities and in accordance with manufacturers' instructions.
- (c) Store and dispose of products according to manufacturers' instructions and current health and safety legislation.

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

Written/oral and performance evidence is required to demonstrate that all Outcomes and Performance Criteria have been achieved.

Outcome 1

Candidates will submit written/oral evidence, which has been gathered in response to an assignment brief to be carried out in open-book conditions. The evidence will include:

- ◆ a list of services relevant to the selected practical skills area
- ◆ a list of product names appropriate to these services
- ◆ in relation to **two** products, relevant information which demonstrates knowledge and understanding of the importance of:
 - manufacturer's instructions
 - recommended quantities for use
 - procedures for safe storage, handling and disposal of products
 - health and safety regulations

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Outcome 2

Candidates will demonstrate by practical performance on two occasions in response to a given brief that they can:

- ◆ select products appropriate to an identified service
- ◆ use the products effectively, following manufacturer's instructions
- ◆ use the correct quantities of the products
- ◆ safely store and dispose of products according to manufacturer's instructions and in accordance with current health and safety legislation

The practical performances should be recorded on an assessor observation checklist.

Sample assignment briefs and assessor checklists are included in the Assessment Support Pack which has been produced for this Unit. Centres who wish to produce their own instruments of assessment should refer to the Assessment Support Pack to ensure a comparable standard.

National Unit Specification: support notes

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This part of the Unit Specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 20 hours.

GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

On completion of this Unit candidates will have gained a basic knowledge of the product range, which is used within the practical skills area. They will have gained the knowledge and skills required for the use of the products and understand the reasons for safe and economical use, storage, handling and disposal of the products, and this should comply with both the organisations and manufacturers instructions. Candidates will participate in a number of practical activities within the selected workplace environment this will give them an understanding of the product choices available and their uses. Candidates at this stage will be supervised and directed to the choice and use of products.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

The requirements of the Unit should be discussed with candidate is prior to commencement.

To achieve success in this Unit candidates will need to have knowledge and understanding of the following:

- ◆ COSHH regulations relating to each product
- ◆ Safe and economical use of products
- ◆ Consequences of wastage
- ◆ Importance of reading and following manufacturer's instructions
- ◆ Correct quantities of product to be used
- ◆ Consequences of wastage of products
- ◆ Organisational requirements for using products
- ◆ Possible effects of inappropriate choice of product

Products and services should be restricted to the practical skills area in which candidates are working and not the full range of products or services offered by the establishment.

In order that candidates achieve this Unit they will have to be in a working environment or realistic work environment. They need to be aware of their own work role and the limits of their responsibility in relation to handling products.

Demonstration of the correct use of the products by the teacher/lecturer should be followed by practice to enable candidates to gain confidence.

Candidates should be informed of the activities carried out within the practical skills area and of the products used for those services. This may be gained through assisting and observing.

Candidates should be shown how to distinguish between the different products by packaging, consistency and texture.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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Demonstration of measuring the correct quantity and application technique of each product should be given.

Candidates should then be given the opportunity to try the products and assess the effects that can be gained. Product leaflets and manufacturers instructions for products should be given to highlight the recommended quantity, storage handling and disposal of the products and to compare the difference between the various manufacturers' recommendations.

This should be followed by the practical selection and use of the products.

It is expected that, at this level, candidates will be given support and guidance from the teacher/lecturer before progressing to assessment.

Opportunities for Developing Core Skills

In this Unit, candidates will gather information; carry out practical activities in the work environment, which will involve listening, seeking advice, talking to customers and collecting and using appropriate products. These are good opportunities for developing communication skills and for working co-operatively with others.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

It is recommended that the assessment for Outcome 1 is completed prior to the completion of the practical assessment for Outcome 2. This will allow candidates to build knowledge and understanding of the products and gain confidence before demonstrating the safe and effective use of these products. While the assessment of Outcome 1 need not be taken on a single assessment occasion under supervised conditions, candidates at this level will need guidance, supervision and feedback to ensure they are adhering to the assignment brief.

The assessment for Outcome 2 should be carried out towards the end of the Unit when candidates have had the benefit of practice and support. Time should be left, however, to allow for re-assessment where necessary.

CANDIDATES WITH DISABILITIES AND/OR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* (www.sqa.org.uk).