



National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Stonemasonry: Concreting, Slab Laying and Block Paving
(SCQF level 6)

CODE F6PM 12

SUMMARY

This Unit is suitable for candidates working towards a Modern Apprenticeship in Stonemasonry and will develop the candidates craft skills in lay concrete, slabs and block paving. This Unit is designed to provide candidates with competence in the use of tools and equipment to set out and lay concrete aprons, slabs and block paving, and the ability to apply these skills in the workplace. It is also designed to enable candidates to develop their understanding and use of stonemasonry terminology, components, techniques and practices to set out and lay concrete, slabs and block paving.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of terminology, components and construction practices used in concreting, slab laying and block paving.
- 2 Set out, prepare and lay concrete apron to specified finishes.
- 3 Set out and lay slabs and an area of block paving.
- 4 Fill joints on slabs and block paving.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates undertaking the Professional Development Award in Stonemasonry at SCQF level 6 must meet the requirements of the Modern Apprentices which includes being employed in the relevant craft industry.

Administrative Information

Superclass: TG

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

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CREDIT VALUE

1 credit at SCQF level 6 (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6*).

**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 a SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

CORE SKILLS

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit. Opportunities for developing aspects of the following Core Skills are highlighted in Support Notes of this Unit:

- ◆ *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 4
- ◆ *Working with Others* at SCQF level 4
- ◆ *ICT* at SCQF level 3
- ◆ *Numeracy* at SCQF level 4
- ◆ *Communication* at SCQF level 4

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 terminology, components and construction practices used in concreting, slab laying and block paving.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Define terminology relating to concrete and paving.
- (b) Identify and select setting out techniques correctly.
- (c) Identify and select components and construction practices correctly.

OUTCOME 2

Set out, prepare and lay concrete apron to specified finishes.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Set out and prepare formwork to receive ready mixed concrete to the given specifications.
- (b) Screed concrete to formwork levels.
- (c) Apply wooden and steel float finishes to concrete apron.
- (d) Comply with current Health and Safety requirements during all work methods and activities.

OUTCOME 3

Set out and lay slabs and an area of block paving.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Set out and lay slabs to pre-determined levels and to given specifications.
- (b) Screed area of sand with appropriate notched timber straight edge.
- (c) Lay block paving to pattern as per drawing and with the given specifications.
- (d) Comply with current Health and Safety requirements during all work methods and activities.

OUTCOME 4

Fill joints on slabs and block paving.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Flush point joints in slabs to the given specifications.
- (b) Consolidate and flush point joints in block paving.
- (c) Comply with current Health and Safety requirements during all work methods and activities.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

These Evidence Requirements will be met by the completion of the Stonemasonry Training and Assessment Programme (TAP).

Evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved this Unit to the standard specified in all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

Written and/or oral recorded evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved Outcome 1 to the standard specified in the Performance Criteria. Candidates will be required to demonstrate their knowledge of terminology, components, techniques and practices by defining terms, describing setting out techniques and identifying required components and construction practices. This assessment will take the form of a question paper and will be conducted under controlled, closed-book, supervised conditions.

Product and performance evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved Outcomes 2, 3 and 4 to the standards specified in the Performance Criteria. Candidates will be required to prepare and lay a concrete apron, slab area to specified levels and complete area with block paving. Assessment of these Outcomes will be evidenced through observation of work processes and assessment of the completed workpieces. Candidates must meet the given standards and tolerances during the practical assessments. An assessor observation checklist must be used to record this evidence. Assessment should be conducted under controlled, supervised conditions.

Outcomes 2, 3 and 4

Summary of standards (working towards industrial tolerances)	
Item	Measurement of standard
Concrete Overall length 2000 mm	±10 mm
Concrete width 2000 mm	±10 mm
Level	±10 mm
Wooden float finish	±10 mm
Steel float finish	±5 mm
Paving Overall length 2290 mm	±5 mm
Paving width 1830 mm	±5 mm
Level	±10 mm
Joint thickness Slabs 10 mm	±5 mm
Joint finish — neat	Yes/No
Block paving pattern correct	Yes/No
Block paving joint uniform and filled	Yes/No
Health and safety	Complies at all times
Risk Assessment	Safety boots worn at all times Hard hat worn at all times High visibility vest worn at all times All other PPE as risk assessed
Method Statement	Working area kept clean at all times Materials stacked correctly at all times Tools handled correctly at all times Tools cleaned and stored safely at end of working day

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 40 hours.

GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

This Unit has been developed as a mandatory Unit in the Professional Development Award in Stonemasonry at SCQF level 6.

The successful completion of this Unit will provide candidates with the required underpinning knowledge and skills relating to setting out techniques and construction practices and components associated with setting out and laying concrete aprons, slabs and block paving.

This Unit should be offered to candidates from the construction and related services industries. The skills and knowledge and understanding are transferable within different working environments but the Unit is primarily aimed at candidates whose normal place of work would be a site, workshop, or similar environment.

The Unit deals with setting out and laying concrete aprons, slabs and block paving. It should be delivered as part of a structured programme of training and orientated to the context of the candidate's work and area of responsibility.

Health and safety and sustainability are integral and key to the construction industry therefore throughout the Unit emphasis will be placed where appropriate on the application of health and safety and sustainability. Safety working practices should be looked at in accordance with current safety codes of practice and regulations. Sustainability should include reference to criteria affecting sustainability, impact of not implementing sustainability on the environment and the legislation promoting sustainability.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

This Unit is designed to help the candidate to develop the ability to set out and lay concrete, slabs and block paving in a safe manner. It is anticipated that the majority of learning will take place in a workshop/site environment.

Practical demonstrations underpinned by effective questioning techniques should focus on skills, construction practices, techniques and underpinning knowledge related to the setting out and laying of concrete, slabs and block paving. During the learning process, practical learning is fundamental as candidates must become proficient in terminology and construction practices relevant to concrete, slab and block paving. Candidates can work in pairs during the practical activities within this Unit.

It is recommended that this Unit be delivered in order of Outcomes as the order stated in the Statement of Standards.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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Opportunities should be taken throughout delivery of this Unit to meet the requirements of the generic Units of the Training and Assessment Programme including:

- ◆ Conform to General Workplace Safety
- ◆ Confirm Work Activities and Resources for the Work
- ◆ Develop and Maintain Good Working Relationships
- ◆ Confirm the Occupational Method of Work
- ◆ Conform to Efficient Working Practices
- ◆ Move and Handle Resources.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Components of the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 4, such as Planning and Organisation and Critical Thinking could be developed as candidates undertake this Unit. Candidates will need to take account of a range of factors in order to work efficiently and safely, such as the choice of tools, appropriate materials, safety issues, safety equipment and sustainability. Individual discussions with assessors will enhance the evaluation of efficient working practices.

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of *Working with Others* at SCQF level 4, particularly in Outcomes 2 and 3 as this practical assessment may be carried out working in pairs. Candidates can agree responsibilities and provide support and information to each other during the assessments. After assessment, they should be encouraged to consider how effectively they supported each other.

Opportunities also arise for candidates to develop the Core Skill of *Information and Communication Technology* at SCQF level 3 by researching Health and Safety legislation affecting their area of work.

Numeracy at SCQF level 4 could be developed through the interpretation of information from 3 dimensional working drawings and the practical use of calculation and measuring scales required for assessments for Outcomes 2 and 3.

There will be opportunities for candidates to develop the Core Skill of *Communication* at SCQF level 4. Candidates will have the opportunity to develop written and/or oral communication skills for the knowledge part of the assessment for Outcome 1. As candidates complete practical tasks, they should be expected to communicate with others using the correct terminology, tone and style suited to the workplace.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Detailed assessment material for this Unit will be found in section 2 of the Stonemasonry Training and Assessment Programme (TAP). Centers may use the instruments of assessment which they consider to be most appropriate but are advised to use the Stonemasonry TAP which has been developed centrally by SQA. Any other instruments of assessment used must be comparable to the TAP and have been through prior verification.

The candidate's knowledge and understanding of terminology, techniques and construction practices and components related to setting out laying concrete, slab and block paving will be assessed through a question paper.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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Candidates should be given as much practice as possible in setting out and laying concrete, slab and block paving prior to being set the assessment. Evidence will be gathered for Outcomes 2, 3 and 4 through observation of work processes and assessment of the completed workpieces to ensure that the candidates have met the given standards and tolerances during the practical assessment. An assessor observation checklist should be used to record this evidence.

Opportunities for the use of e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

DISABLED CANDIDATES AND/OR THOSE WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements