



# Practical Fashion and Textile Technology (National 4)

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## Draft National Course Specification

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Please refer to the note of changes at the end of this Course Specification for details of changes from previous version (where applicable).

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## Course outline

**Course title:** Practical Fashion and Textile Technology (National 4)

**SCQF:** level 4 (24 SCQF credit points)

**Course code:** to be advised

### Mandatory Units

**Practical Fashion and Textile Technology:  
Textile Technologies (National 4)** 6 SCQF credit points

**Practical Fashion and Textile Technology:  
Item Development (National 4)** 6 SCQF credit points

**Practical Fashion and Textile Technology:  
Fashion Choices (National 4)** 6 SCQF credit points

#### Added Value Unit

**Practical Fashion and Textile Technology:  
Practical Activity (National 4)** 6 SCQF credit points

This Course includes six SCQF credit points for the assessment of added value in the Added Value Unit. Further information on this Unit is provided in the Assessment section.

### Recommended entry

Entry to this Course is at the discretion of the centre. However, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills and knowledge required by the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- ◆ Practical Fashion and Textile Technology (Access 3) Course or relevant component Units

In terms of prior learning and experience, relevant experiences and outcomes may also provide an appropriate basis for doing this Course. Further information on relevant experiences and outcomes will be given in the *Course Support Notes*.

## **Progression**

This Course or its components may provide progression to:

- ◆ other SQA qualifications in fashion and textile technology or related areas, eg health and wellbeing or technologies
- ◆ further education and employment or training

Further details are provided in the Rationale section.

## **Equality and inclusion**

This Course Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. For further information please refer to the *Course Support Notes* and the *Course Assessment Specification*.

## **Rationale**

All new and revised National Courses reflect Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles. They offer flexibility, provide more time for learning, more focus on skills and applying learning, and scope for personalisation and choice.

In this Course, and its component Units, there will be an emphasis on skills development and the application of those skills. Assessment approaches will be proportionate, fit for purpose and will promote best practice, enabling learners to achieve the highest standards they can.

This Course provides learners with opportunities to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

All Courses provide opportunities for learners to develop breadth, challenge and application, but the focus and balance of the assessment will be appropriate for the subject area.

## **Relationship between the Course and Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles**

This Course builds on the technologies and health and wellbeing experiences and outcomes. The Course uses fashion and textile contexts for developing related technological skills, knowledge, understanding and attributes through practical and work-related activities<sup>1</sup>.

The practical learning activities in this Course encourage learners to develop problem-solving techniques, make informed choices and take responsibility for the development of an idea through to the completed item.

The Course will focus on planning the manufacture of fashion/textile items, making the items, and evaluating both the finished product and the process.

The Course allows learners to continue to acquire the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities, as well as enthusiasm and a willingness to learn; perseverance, resilience and independence; responsibility and reliability; and confidence and enterprise.

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<sup>1</sup> Technologies principles and practice paper

<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/learningteachingandassessment/curriculumareas/technologies/principlesandpractice/index.asp>

## **Purpose and aims of the Course**

This Course is practical and experiential. Learners will plan, manufacture and evaluate straightforward fashion/textile items to given briefs.

The main purpose of the Course is to develop the practical skills, techniques and knowledge which support fashion/textile related activities. The knowledge and skills that learners acquire by successfully completing the Course will be valuable for learning, for life and for the world of work.

The Course has the following aims:

- ◆ to develop learners' knowledge of textile characteristics and technologies
- ◆ to develop an understanding of factors that influence fashion choices made by individuals and society
- ◆ to allow learners to develop appropriate and safe use of relevant tools and equipment to manufacture straightforward fashion/textile items
- ◆ to allow learners to develop practical skills and techniques to facilitate planning and manufacture of straightforward fashion/textile items
- ◆ to develop learners' investigation and evaluation skills

Particular emphasis is placed on the development of manual dexterity and construction skills to produce fashion/textile items. The Course ensures learners develop knowledge of textile characteristics and technologies, manufacturing and the factors that affect fashion choice.

This Course will help learners to develop important skills, attitudes and attributes related to fashion and textiles including construction skills; manual dexterity skills; problem-solving skills; and communication skills.

The Course also contributes towards the development of numeracy skills linked to measuring materials and timing production.

## **Information about typical learners who might do the Course**

The Course is suitable for all learners with an interest in fashion and textiles who would like to develop practical fashion/textile skills. It is particularly suitable for learners who enjoy experiential learning through practical activities.

This Course offers learners opportunities to develop a range of skills, including practical construction skills. This is underpinned with the relevant knowledge of textile properties and technologies required to create fashion/textile items. Learners are provided with opportunities to develop skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

## **Course structure and conditions of award**

### **Course structure**

The central theme of the Course is to develop practical knowledge and skills which support fashion/textile related activities. The Course is practical, exploratory and experiential in nature.

Units are statements of standards for assessment and not programmes of learning and teaching. They can be delivered in a number of ways.

The Course has four mandatory Units including the Added Value Unit.

#### **Practical Fashion and Textile Technology: Textile Technologies (National 4)**

This Unit provides learners with the opportunity to develop basic knowledge of textile technologies. This will include the characteristics and properties of fibres, yarns and fabrics. It will also help learners set up and safely use equipment and tools to manufacture straightforward fashion/textile items using basic construction skills.

#### **Practical Fashion and Textile Technology: Item Development (National 4)**

This Unit provides learners with the opportunity to develop fashion/textile items. They will work to a given brief to plan, manufacture and evaluate straightforward fashion/textile items. This will help learners develop and apply their knowledge of fabrics and construction skills, as well as safe use of equipment and tools.

#### **Practical Fashion and Textile Technology: Fashion Choices (National 4)**

This Unit provides learners with the opportunity to develop their knowledge of factors affecting fashion choice for individuals and society. Learners will work to a given brief to plan, manufacture and evaluate fashion/textile items with a particular focus on issues that affect fashion choice.

#### **Added Value Unit: Practical Fashion and Textile Technology: Practical Activity (National 4)**

In the Added Value Unit learners will draw on and extend their range of practical techniques and skills in order to produce an effective overall response to a practical task. The practical task will be sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice.

This Course has been constructed to facilitate a hierarchical arrangement with Practical Fashion and Textile Technology Access 3 and National 5 Courses.

### **Conditions of award**

To achieve the Practical Fashion and Textile Technology (National 4) Course, learners must pass all of the required Units, including the Added Value Unit. The required Units are shown in the Course Outline section.

*National 4 Courses are not graded.*

## Skills and knowledge

Full skills and knowledge for the Course will be given in the *Course Assessment Specification*. A broad overview of the mandatory subject skills, knowledge and understanding that will be assessed in the Course includes:

- ◆ understanding textile characteristics and properties including textile technologies
- ◆ developing straightforward practical construction skills
- ◆ developing manual dexterity
- ◆ demonstrating appropriate set up and safe use of tools and equipment to produce straightforward fashion/textile items
- ◆ understanding factors that affect fashion choices
- ◆ planning and manufacturing straightforward fashion/textile items
- ◆ problem-solving in straightforward contexts
- ◆ evaluating the product
- ◆ communicating straightforward ideas and thoughts

## Assessment

Information about assessment for the Course will be included in the *Course Assessment Specification* which will provide full details including advice on how a learner's overall attainment for the Course will be determined.

### Unit assessment

All Units are internally assessed against the requirements shown in the Unit Specification.

They can be assessed on a Unit-by-Unit basis or by combined assessment.

They will be assessed on a pass/fail basis within centres. SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgments are consistent and meet national standards.

The assessment of the Units in this Course will be as follows:

#### **Practical Fashion and Textile Technology: Textile Technologies (National 4)**

The learner will be required to demonstrate basic knowledge of textile technologies. This will include the characteristics and properties of fibres, yarns and fabrics. Learners will be required to set up and safely use equipment and tools to manufacture straightforward fashion/textile items using basic construction skills.

#### **Practical Fashion and Textile Technology: Item Development (National 4)**

The learner will be required to work to a given brief to plan, manufacture and evaluate straightforward fashion/textile items. In so doing, learners will apply their basic knowledge of fabrics, craft and construction skills and safe use of equipment and tools.

#### **Practical Fashion and Textile Technology: Fashion Choices (National 4)**

The learner will be required to demonstrate and apply knowledge of factors affecting fashion choice for individuals and society. Learners will plan, manufacture and evaluate fashion/textile items taking into account issues that affect fashion choice.

### Added Value Unit

Courses from National 4 to Advanced Higher include assessment of [added value](#)<sup>2</sup>. At National 4, added value will be assessed in an Added Value Unit. The Added Value Unit will address the key purposes and aims of the Course as defined in the Course Rationale. It will do this by addressing one or more of breadth, challenge or application.

In this Course, the Added Value Unit will focus on:

- ◆ breadth
- ◆ application

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<sup>2</sup> Definitions can be found here: [www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45528.html](http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45528.html)

*successful learner, confident individual, responsible citizen, effective contributor*

The learner will draw on and extend their range of practical techniques and skills in a [practical activity](#)<sup>3</sup> to produce an effective overall response to a given brief. The brief will be sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice.

Exemplification of possible assessment approaches for Units will be provided in the *National Assessment Resource*.

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<sup>3</sup> Definitions can be found here: [www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45528.html](http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45528.html)

## Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

*(Note: The information given below reflects the initial thinking on significant opportunities for development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work. These may be subject to change as the development process progresses.)*

It is expected that learners will also develop broad, generic skills through this Course. The skills that are likely to be appropriate for this Course are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Course where there are appropriate opportunities.

### **2 Numeracy**

2.2 Money, time and measurement

### **3 Health and wellbeing**

3.1 Personal learning

### **5 Thinking skills**

5.1 Remembering

5.3 Applying

Amplification of these skills is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills will be appropriate to the level of the Course. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work for the Course is given in the *Course Support Notes*.

## Administrative information

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**Published:** April 2011 (version 1.0)

**Superclass:** to be advised

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## History of changes to National Course Specification

Course details	Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date

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Note: You are advised to check SQA's website ([www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)) to ensure you are using the most up-to-date version of the Course Specification.