

PROFFI303 (SQA Unit Code - FE4X 04)

Evaluate and specify restoration requirements



Overview

This standard addresses the competence required to evaluate the condition of an item of furniture and specify what is required to restore it. This involves:

- 1 assessing the condition of an item of furniture
- 2 producing a condition report
- 3 producing a work specification for the restoration

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

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Performance criteria

Assess the condition of an item of furniture

You must be able to:

- P1 develop an accurate and thorough assessment of the condition of the item in terms of its
 - P1.1 construction
 - P1.2 fragility
 - P1.3 material composition
 - P1.4 finish and appearance
- P2 handle and examine the item without causing further damage or **degradation**
- P3 accurately identify any vulnerabilities in the item which will need to be addressed
- P4 use valid and reliable **sources of information** and expert advice as required to ensure your evaluation is complete
- P5 accurately determine the probable causes of damage and **degradation** in the item
- P6 record your assessment in sufficient detail to allow **restoration** options to be explored and agreed
- P7 produce your condition report for the **customer** within an economic timescale
- P8 maintain effective communication with the **customer**

Specify restoration requirements

You must be able to:

- P9 explore a viable range of **restoration** options
- P10 make effective use of available **sources of information** and research findings
- P11 take account of the intended placement and use of the item when evaluating **restoration** options
- P12 conduct a fair and thorough assessment of the outcome quality, costs and timescale implications of alternative **restoration** options
- P13 recommend an appropriate course of action to optimise quality, costs and timescale in line with **customer** expectations
- P14 take clear account of **customer** preferences and ensure that they are recorded with the **specification**
- P15 specify the requirements of the **restoration** work to be done in detail, to ensure it will be accurately interpreted
- P16 pass on the **specification** for the **restoration** to the correct people to take it forward and check that their understanding of it is accurate and complete

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Knowledge and understanding

Assess the condition of an item of furniture

You need to know and understand:

- K1 what factors are contained in a condition report for furniture restoration
- K2 how to identify the construction methods and materials used in items of furniture from different historical periods and countries of origin
- K3 what steps to take to avoid causing damage and degradation to an item of furniture
- K4 what to look for when assessing how vulnerable the item is to continuing degradation
- K5 why it is helpful to identify the causes of damage and degradation so these can be taken into account when considering restoration requirements
- K6 how to identify the signs of common forms of deterioration in items of furniture
- K7 why you should keep a record of your assessment
- K8 how to provide clear information to a customer, what type of information they need, and why it could be important to them

Specify restoration requirements

You need to know and understand:

- K9 why it is good practice to consider a range of options, and how to be sure that each is viable
- K10 what the meaning and use is of technical terms used in furniture restoration
- K11 why you should consider the intended placement and use of the item
- K12 why it is important to be fair and thorough in evaluating and balancing quality, cost and availability
- K13 what format, information and levels of detail are usually included in specifications for restoration work
- K14 why it is important to ensure that the specifications is clear and complete and has been understood
- K15 who to pass the specification on to for action

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Additional Information

Scope

Customer

Customers for a restoration may be private or corporate (e.g. via a gallery).

Degradation

The level of deterioration in the structure and fabric of an item of furniture.

Degradation can be mechanical (e.g. joint loosening), physical (e.g. fracture, ripping), biological (e.g. infestation) and/or chemical (e.g. pollutants).

Restoration

The return of an item of older, traditional or antique furniture to its original condition. Restoration commissions may be small scale (e.g. a small stool or chest) or large scale (e.g. because of the number of items to be restored, or because of the condition of the item, or because of the rarity/value of the item).

Sources of information

Information sources would include documents (e.g. historical records, manufacturer's specifications), other people, professional/trade organisations. Information sources may be accessed directly or electronically. Information may have been collected and collated by another person as part of research into the restoration. In the context of this unit, the important dimension is that the information is used to support valid and effective decision-making.

Specification

The specification for a restoration will include details on the following:

- 1 quality criteria to be met
- 2 budgetary limits
- 3 time scale for the work
- 4 materials to be used
- 5 techniques to be used

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

Suite Furniture; Furnishings and Interiors

Key words Contemporary Furniture Making; Traditional Furniture Making; Bed Making; Frame Making; Component Manufacture; Veneering; Modern Upholstery; Traditional Upholstery; Soft Furnishing; Cutting; Sewing; Hand Finishing;