

PROFFI229 (SQA Unit Code - FE5F 04) Prepare and construct upholstery foundations



Overview

This standard addresses the competence required to construct upholstery foundations. This involves:

- 1 selecting and applying suspensions that suit load bearing requirements
- 2 applying fillings and forming the shape of the item to be upholstered
- 3 working in ways which maintain your own and others' safety

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

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Performance criteria

Apply upholstery suspensions

You must be able to:

- P1 check and confirm that the frame is of an appropriate type, dimension and **condition** for the upholstery to be carried out
- P2 set aside any frames which are of unsuitable **condition** for upholstery
- P3 select **suspensions** of a suitable type and quantity to meet the load bearing requirements of the item of furniture to be upholstered
- P4 space and align the **suspensions** so that they provide sufficient support to accommodate the **upholstery** to be carried out
- P5 secure the **suspensions** together as required to meet the load-bearing requirements of the item
- P6 secure the **suspensions** in place using a type and size of **fixing** that is appropriate to the item and its **specification**
- P7 where springs are being used, use a spring edge construction that is appropriate to the type of furniture, design and required edge detail
- P8 make sure that the tensioning of the **suspensions** is adequate to provide the strength and rigidity of foundation needed by the **specification**
- P9 work in ways that protect yourself and others from risk of injury
- P10 deal promptly and effectively with any **problems** which arise

You must be able to:

Form the shape of upholstered items

- P11 select **fillings** that are of suitable quality for the **upholstery** to be carried out
- P12 ensure that you have sufficient **fillings** to form the shape to the required dimensions
- P13 position and form the **fillings** to the required shape, density and depth
- P14 secure the **fillings** in place using **fixing methods** which are suited to the type of **filling** and its location on the item of furniture
- P15 make sure that **stitchings** are of the required length, tension, size and spacing to produce the results required and are securely finished
- P16 make sure that your **stitching** accurately and evenly follows the frame line and the shape required for finished contour lines
- P17 work in ways that protect yourself and others from risk of injury
- P18 deal promptly and effectively with any **problems** which arise
- P19 secure the undercover so that it lies smooth and even

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Apply upholstery suspensions

- K1 the meaning of terms used in technical specifications for upholstery
- K2 why it is important to check the condition of the frame before starting to apply suspensions and what factors would mean that a frame was unsuitable
- K3 what types of suspensions are used and for what purposes
- K4 what the principles are behind the spacing and alignment of suspensions
- K5 why suspensions may need to be secured to each other and the implications of not doing this
- K6 how to secure suspensions in place and which fixings to use for different types of suspension
- K7 why suspensions need to be tensioned and the implications of over and under-tensioning
- K8 what sorts of spring edge construction to use for different situations and why
- K9 the implications for your work of the HASAWA and COSHH Regulations, including where to find out about relevant risk assessment details and control methods that have been set by your organisation
- K10 what kinds of problems can arise with applying suspensions and how to correct them
- K11 what the current Furnishing Regulations require in terms of suspensions

You need to know and understand:

Form the shape of upholstered items

- K12 the meaning of terms used in technical specifications for upholstery
- K13 what sort of fillings are used in upholstery and for what purposes
- K14 the handling requirements which apply to different sorts of materials
- K15 what methods are used to fix fillings in place and when to use them
- K16 what the implications are of using insufficient fillings, or of applying them unevenly, and how to overcome problems these can cause
- K17 what the implications are of inappropriate tensioning of stitches and how to overcome problems this can cause
- K18 the implications for your work of the HASAWA and COSHH Regulations, including where to find out about relevant risk assessment details and control methods that have been set by your organisation
- K19 what the current Furnishing Regulations require in terms of the use of different upholstery fillings
- K20 why an undercover is used and how this is secured

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Additional Information

Scope

Conditions

The conditions of the frame in terms of its size, the security of any joints and any irregularities in the wood which might affect the attachment of the suspensions.

Fillings

Fillings include fillings such as fabrics, hair, fibres, felts, wadding, feather/down and foam, polyfoam, plastic foam, latex, polyester.

Fixing methods

The fixing methods covered by this unit include stitching, tacking and stapling, using staple guns, upholstery tacks and hammers, upholstery needles and threads.

Problems

Problems can arise in relation to the quality, application and positioning of the suspensions and/or in relation to the forming and securing of the fillings to produce the required shape. Problems can arise with edge formation where the scrim is incorrectly tacked or the stitches are of inappropriate tension.

Suspensions

Webbings, double and single cone springs and spring units.

Specification

The set of details which describe the work to be carried out, including the characteristics of the upholstery fillings to be used, the shape to be produced, the type and dimensions of the item to be upholstered. Specifications may be written and/or presented in the form of a diagram with measurements.

The specification may require wooden components to be stripped before the application of upholstery materials.

Stitching

Stitching is carried out to form the shape and hold fillings in place and also to form edges and contours.

Upholstery

Upholstery is of scroll arms and squab cushions. Panels are of simple and complex shapes.

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Developed by Proskills

Version number 1

Date approved April 2008

Indicative review date April 2013

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation Proskills

Original URN 229

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;