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## Overview

This standard covers the construction of paths or surfaces.

Construction is defined as creating a new path or surface, or replacing an existing path or surface.

If you are working with chemicals or machinery you need to be appropriately trained or certificated in line with current legislation.

This standard is for those who undertake the construction of paths or surfaces.

You must carry out your work in a way which will minimise any impact on the natural environment and enhance its nature, conservation and recreational value.

**Performance  
criteria**

**You must be able to:**

- P1 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements and company policies
- P2 assess the site prior to operation to identify any restrictions on the planned work
- P3 select, prepare and use equipment and machinery in accordance with specifications
- P4 select materials to meet specifications
- P5 prepare the site in accordance with specifications
- P6 construct paths or surfaces in accordance with specifications
- P7 provide foundations and drainage in accordance with specifications where required
- P8 carry out work in a manner which prevents damage to the surrounding area
- P9 ensure that other site users are not put at risk by your work
- P10 ensure the appearance and condition of the path or surface meets specifications
- P11 handle and transport materials and equipment in accordance with regulations
- P12 deal with waste safely and correctly in accordance with instructions
- P13 restore the site to an appropriate condition following completion of the work

**Knowledge and understanding**

**You need to know and understand:**

- K1 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and company policies
- K2 the importance of examining the site prior to commencing work with regards to hazards, assessment of risk and potential restrictions
- K3 the restrictions affecting the work e.g. presence of listed structures, wildlife, non-native invasive or protected species etc.
- K4 the hazards presented by services on site and how to avoid these
- K5 how to select, prepare and use tools, equipment and materials relevant to the agreed specifications
- K6 suitable methods for preparing the site
- K7 the methods of construction for different types of paths or surfaces
- K8 the purpose of the path or surface
- K9 the relative advantages and disadvantages of different types of surface or paths and situations in which they are appropriate
- K10 the types of foundations which are required
- K11 the principles of drainage for paths or surfaces and how to ensure its effectiveness
- K12 the qualities of the finished product that make it fit for purpose
- K13 the potential impact of your work on the surrounding area and how to minimise this
- K14 how to handle, transport and dispose of waste in accordance with legal and organisational requirements
- K15 why it is important to keep working areas clean and tidy during operation and to restore the site following completion of the work

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## Glossary

Paths and surfaces could include dirt tracks, bark paths, flagstone, standing areas, aggregate paths, stone-pitched paths and boardwalk paths.

Specifications include drawings, schedules, method statements, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), manufacturers' guidelines, legislation and tolerances.

Instructions can be verbal or written.

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Relevant occupations Arboriculture and Forestry; Estate Worker; Ranger; Access Officer; Manager of Volunteers; Conservation Officer; Gardener; Landscaper; Greenkeeper, Groundsman; Park Ranger

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Suite Environmental Conservation; Horticulture; Treework;

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