

J3.20 Set gemstones by hand SQA Unit Code H9VN 04

Unit Summary

This unit covers the skills and knowledge required to set gemstones using appropriate techniques. You will be required to work to instructions and to use a range of hand tools and a variety of techniques, appropriate to the type of material being used and type of setting used.

You will be expected to visually check the quality of your work, seek guidance on any defects and on the appropriate action to rectify them and ensure that the finished work meets the given specification which may include timescales.

Performance Indicators

You will be able to:

- a) Identify the setting requirements
- b) Assess the gemstones for flaws, cracks or defects
- c) Identify the setting metal, and appropriate stones for the number of holes
- d) Prepare materials and equipment for setting
- e) Adjust stones in the settings
- f) **Secure gemstones** in a range of settings and **metals**

Knowledge and Understanding

You will know and understand:

- 1) Basic gemology
- 2) Setting techniques and procedures
- 3) Common terminology used in gemstone setting
- 4) The range of tools and their sizes
- 5) Determine the suitability of metal for setting the type of gemstone
- 6) How to care for and maintain tools
- 7) the cleaning up procedure after setting
- 8) The sequence of application to remove surface marks
- 9) How to identify difficulties prior to setting
- 10) The clean up procedure after setting of filing, grain tooling, buffing

Range

You are required to:

- A. **Secure gemstones** in all of the following styles
 - (i) Rub over
 - (ii) Thread and grain setting
 - (iii) Star setting
 - (iv) Gypsy/flush setting
 - (v) Pavée setting
 - (vi) A range of claw settings

- B. **Secure gemstone** using one of the following methods:
 - (i) Scorper/graver
 - (ii) Air gravers
 - (ii) Stereo-microscopes

- C. Set work in 3 of the following **metals**
 - (i) Copper
 - (ii) Silver
 - (iii) Gold
 - (iv) Platinum
 - (v) Palladium