



Higher National Unit Specification

General information

Unit title: Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs (SCQF level 7)

Unit code: HN7P 34

Superclass: LJ

Publication date: June 2017

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

Unit purpose

This unit will enable learners to develop their existing repair skills by exploring both new and traditional complex repair techniques. An integral element of this unit is estimating a realistic timescale and cost for each repair. Learners will explore techniques that develop the retouching skills required to maintain the integrity of the original finish.

This is an optional unit within the Higher National Certificate in Stringed Musical Instrument Making and Repair (SCQF level 7), but can also be taken as a free-standing unit.

The unit is aimed at learners who have achieved *Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs* (SCQF level 6) or those working at an equivalent level who wish to enhance their skills and knowledge.

Outcomes

On successful completion of the unit the learner will be able to:

- 1 Identify and analyse complex repairs.
- 2 Prepare repair estimates with complete costs.
- 3 Repair complex defects in stringed musical instruments.
- 4 Retouch coating to blend with the existing finish.

Credit points and level

2 National Unit credits at SQF level 7: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7)

Higher National Unit Specification: General information (cont)

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Recommended entry to the Unit

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, learners would normally be expected to have attained the following, or equivalent:

Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs (SCQF level 6)

Core Skills

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the support notes for this unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this unit.

Context for delivery

If this unit is delivered as part of a group award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the group award to which it contributes.

Equality and inclusion

This unit 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.

Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

Higher National Unit Specification: Statement of standards

Unit title: Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs (SCQF level 7)

Acceptable performance in this unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

Outcome 1

Identify and analyse complex repairs.

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Identifying faults and damage
- ◆ Analysis
- ◆ Cognitive thinking
- ◆ Personal judgement

Outcome 2

Prepare repair estimates with complete costs.

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Estimating
- ◆ Costing
- ◆ Analysis
- ◆ Time management

Outcome 3

Repair complex defects in stringed musical instruments.

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Practical hand skills
- ◆ Health and safety
- ◆ Jig and tool use
- ◆ Methodology
- ◆ Procedures

Outcome 4

Retouch coating to blend with existing finish.

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Colour recognition
- ◆ Brush or spray techniques
- ◆ Types of finish
- ◆ Health and safety

Higher National Unit Specification: Statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs (SCQF level 7)

Evidence requirements for this unit

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills across all outcomes by showing that they can:

Outcome 1

- ◆ identify, name and log complex structural and cosmetic damage.
- ◆ consider appropriate repair procedures within the parameters of cost and time management.
- ◆ choose repair procedures which are justified and recorded on a worksheet.

Evidence should be presented as completed worksheets detailing damage, procedures, costs and time management.

Outcome 2

- ◆ prepare preliminary estimates recording labour time and material costs for each element of repair procedures.
- ◆ complete estimate worksheet with totals for labour time at an hourly rate and named materials costs.

Evidence should be presented as a completed estimate worksheet detailing labour and materials costs.

Outcome 3

- ◆ correctly repair defects to selected procedures and methods.
- ◆ use appropriate tools and jigs to perform repairs.
- ◆ adhere to Health and Safety requirements.

Evidence should be presented as completed repair work to chosen procedures and methods.

Outcome 4

- ◆ identify original finish coatings and select suitable retouching materials.
- ◆ retouch to achieve a blended appearance.
- ◆ adhere to Health and Safety requirements.

Evidence should be presented as completed product.



Higher National Unit Support Notes

Unit title: Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs (SCQF level 7)

Unit support notes are offered as guidance and are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 120 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this unit

This unit is intended to enhance the knowledge and skills obtained from *Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs* (SCQF level 6).

The repairs should be carried out using methods that are similar to those used in a small workshop. Supporting documentation should be included which would be the case in a busy repair shop.

Learners need to be aware that when working as a sole trader all aspects of administration and practical work are handled by the individual. This unit identifies systems which will help develop and implement these tasks. In a work situation this organisational approach is required to instil confidence in the ability and professionalism of the repairperson.

The following are examples of possible common repair topics although many others can be encountered:

Fretted Instruments	Non-fretted Instruments
Crack repairs	Crack repairs
Headstock repair	Peghead repair
Neck re-set	Neck re-set
Brace repair	Brace repair
Rib shatter patch	Rib shatter patch
Fingerboard replacement	Fingerboard replacement
Block repair or replacement	Block repair or replacement
Rib replacement	Rib replacement
Fixed Bridge repair or replacement	Missing corners, Edging and Half edging
Make a fretted instrument floating bridge	
Bridge plate repair	
Truss rod replacement	

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

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Guidance on approaches to delivery of this unit

This unit could be delivered in an integrated manner using guided group discussion, question and answer sessions, individual tutorial guidance and lectures. Repairs can be on different instruments or as part of a major restoration thus reflecting the type of work encountered in a repair shop.

Interaction between learners should be encouraged to expand knowledge and understanding.

The approach to this unit should be learner centred where an intuitive and free-thinking attitude to complex jobs is created. Guidance from the tutor can help facilitate and encourage good work practises.

Organising a visit to a repair shop is worthwhile as it gives real context to what needs to be achieved.

Guidance on approaches to assessment of this unit

Evidence can be generated using different types of assessment. The following are suggestions only. There may be other methods that would be more suitable to learners.

Centres are reminded that prior verification of centre-devised assessments would help to ensure that the national standard is being met. Where learners experience a range of assessment methods, this helps them to develop different skills that should be transferable to work or further and higher education.

Tutors should discuss individual projects guiding the learner through the process of analysing, decision making and the completion of relevant recorded and practical work. Learners should be encouraged to seek out their own projects to give a sense of ownership in working on a "real" job.

The recorded assessment elements, stand-alone or integrated, should consist of worksheets and estimate forms presented along with details of the repair and photographs.

Caveat should be added to Estimate worksheet stating that the true costs could vary depending upon complexity of repair

Physical and photographic evidence should be presented to the tutor who could complete a checklist of repairs after visual examination.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

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Opportunities for e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the evidence requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment.

Opportunities for developing Core and other essential skills

There are opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills for *Communication, Numeracy, ICT, Problem Solving* and *Working with Others* that naturally arise through the learning and teaching of this unit.

History of changes to unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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General information for learners

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This section will help you decide whether this is the unit for you by explaining what the unit is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the unit and opportunities for further learning and employment.

In most cases you will have achieved *Stringed Instruments: Major Repairs* (SCQF level 6), or will have been working at an equivalent level, so will have a sound knowledge of repair procedures.

This unit enables you to adopt a more professional and ordered approach to complex instrument repairs in a small workshop environment. You will learn how to identify and analyse difficult repairs, choosing the most suitable procedure for each repair.

You will gain an understanding of systems of recording and estimating repair costs, this will be assessed by submitting completed forms and worksheets. You will gain the ability to perform major complex instrument repairs.