



National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Sewing Skills: Shoulder Suspended Garments
(SCQF level 6)

Unit code: FP5J 12

Superclass: WH

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Summary

This Unit is designed to develop sewing skills for shoulder suspended garments. Candidates will learn a range of sewing techniques and will then produce a shoulder suspended garment. Candidates will use industrial equipment and methods and will work in accordance with specifications.

This Unit forms part of the National Certificate in Fashion Design and Manufacture but can also be delivered as a freestanding Unit.

Outcomes

- 1 Produce sewing samples for shoulder suspended garments.
- 2 Produce a shoulder suspended garment.

Recommended entry

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would normally be expected to have attained a Course or its component Units at SCQF level 5. It would be beneficial if candidates had some basic experience of using industrial machine sewing skills.

Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 6: (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

National Unit specification: general information (cont)

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Core Skills

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills in this Unit.

The Unit provides opportunities for candidates to develop aspects of the following Core Skills:

- ◆ *Problem Solving* (SCQF level 5)
- ◆ *Numeracy* (SCQF level 4)

These opportunities are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit Specification.

National Unit specification: statement of standards

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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

Produce sewing samples for shoulder suspended garments.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Produce sewing samples for shoulder suspended garments using industrial equipment and methods to specified standards.
- (b) Comply with appropriate Health and Safety requirements.

Outcome 2

Produce a shoulder suspended garment.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Produce a shoulder suspended garment using industrial equipment and methods to a given specification.
- (b) Finish the shoulder suspended garment to a saleable standard.
- (c) Evaluate the shoulder suspended garment against the specification.
- (d) Comply with appropriate Health and Safety requirements.

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

Outcomes 1 and 2 — Practical Exercises

For **Outcome 1** candidates will be required to demonstrate a minimum of six of the following sewing techniques, in accordance with given standards:

- ◆ shaped darts, zips, mitres, side seam pocket, shaped panels, sleeves, collars, necklines/facings, cuffs, fastenings, yokes, pleats and gathers

For **Outcome 2** candidates must produce a shoulder suspended garment which includes a minimum of four techniques from the list in Outcome 1. The garment must comply with the given specification, be within an overall girth and length tolerance of ± 1 cm and be of a saleable standard. Candidates should evaluate the quality of the finished garment against the specification using a given evaluation checklist.

The assessment should include an **observation checklist** to assess that candidates use industrial equipment and methods correctly. The checklist should also confirm that candidates comply with H&S requirements, including maintaining the work area.

National Unit specification: support notes

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This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit could be studied on its own as a freestanding Unit or it could be studied in conjunction with other Units as part of the National Certificate for Fashion Design and Manufacture.

This Unit will provide a continuation of the skills developed in the *Industrial Machine Sewing Skills: An Introduction* Unit and could progress to the Develop and Manufacture range of Units. The Unit could be delivered in an integrated with the *Pattern Construction: Shoulder Suspended Garments* Unit.

Candidates will develop expertise in the use of industrial equipment and methods. Equipment should include: three thread overlocker, single needle lockstitch machine, blind hemmer, button hole machine functions, pressing equipment, iron and vacuum table, various sewing attachments.

Sewing techniques will include shaped darts, various zips, mitres, side seam pocket, shaped panels, sleeves, collars, necklines/facings, cuffs, fastenings, yokes, pleats and gathers.

Candidates will learn about garment construction: sequence of operations for garment construction, finishing and pressing.

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

A candidate centred, resource based learning approach is recommended. The Outcomes in this Unit need not be taught separately and it is likely that an integrated approach could be used. The Outcomes are likely to be taught in the order shown.

It is important that candidates learn how to interpret specifications. Exemplars should be available at the various stages to show standards, quality and presentation required for samples and garment.

The requirements to meet tolerance and comply with specifications must be stressed and candidates must evaluate their own work on an on-going basis. Candidates should carry out a realistic evaluation of their garment against the given specifications.

Candidates should be made aware of fabric handling techniques — candidates should be shown how to hold and position fabrics to achieve the set standards. Candidates should also be made aware of the differences in quality and price of garments, for example, by comparing and contrasting quality and prices of budget stores and more expensive stores.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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Lay planning should be discussed/demonstrated as garment may be cut out (this may be also covered in pattern construction Unit).

Definition of acceptable 'saleable' standard

The definition of a 'saleable' standard will differ according to the SCQF level of the Unit. Each qualification level should be a skills progression from the previous level.

Within high street stores there is often a basic range and a higher quality range. NQ Units at SCQF levels 5 and 6 would be comparable to the saleable standard expected in the lower range high street store's basic range. Level 5 would have more 'allowable' faults than level 6. HN Units at levels 7 and 8 would be comparable to the saleable standard expected in the mid range high street store's basic range. Level 7 would have more 'allowable' faults than level 8.

Centres could produce samples of work at the minimum acceptable level and also at a high level of finish. Samples of what is not acceptable would also be useful — such as poor stitch tension in a garment seam. The following areas should be considered when assessing an acceptable 'saleable' standard:

- ◆ Raw material faults, eg holes, tears, marks on fabric.
- ◆ Machining faults, eg unbalanced stitch tension, skipped stitches, puckered stitches.
- ◆ Appearance defects, eg notches too deep and visible in seam, twisted hem, zip slide unable to open or close, sleeve not draping correctly
- ◆ Finish, eg trimming of threads and final pressing.

Candidates should be encouraged to inspect the inside as well as the outside of a garment. They should look at the stitching, seams and seam finishes and the drape of the garment. Candidates could benchmark their work against samples to assess if it is of an acceptable standard.

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

Each candidate should have several opportunities to develop practical skills required in this Unit and should be assessed at appropriate points throughout the Unit. The Outcomes are likely to be assessed in the order shown. Where a candidate is unsuccessful in achieving an Outcome, provision should be made for remediation and re-assessment.

Instruments of Assessment

Centres may use Instruments of Assessment which are considered by assessors/tutors to be the most appropriate.

It is recommended that practical exercises are used to assess these Outcomes 1 and 2. As well as producing the requirements of the Outcomes, practical observation checklists should be used to evidence the candidates' completion of the Outcomes and Performance Criteria, in particular in relation to the sewing techniques and compliance with Health and Safety requirements.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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Assessment Guidance

Outcome 1

Candidates will be required to demonstrate a minimum of six sewing techniques. Individual samples could show more than one technique. Candidates should be issued with appropriate standards/tolerances for each technique.

Outcome 2

Candidates must create a waist suspended garment which demonstrates at least four techniques. The garment could be a dress or bodice. Candidates should be provided with a specification sheets to create their garment — the specifications should indicate seam allowance, quality standards and methods of construction. The finished garment must comply with the given specification, be within an overall girth and length tolerance of ± 1 cm and be of a saleable standard (as a point of reference the basic range of a lower range high street store would be an acceptable saleable standard). Candidates should also be provided with an evaluation checklist to allow them to evaluate the quality of the finished garment against the specification.

Opportunities for the use of 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 e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

During the delivery of this Unit candidates will be involved a range of practical activities which could offer good opportunities for developing aspects of:

- ◆ *Problem Solving*
- ◆ *Numeracy*

The following gives some examples of some of the opportunities for developing these Core Skills which the Unit makes available to candidates.

Problem Solving (Practical exercises) — Interpretation of given specifications and working drawings; evaluation of sewn garment.

Numeracy (Practical exercises) — Measurements; working within tolerances.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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