



National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Furniture Polishing: Hand Finishing

Unit code: H3MM 11

Superclass: WK

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Summary

The purpose of this Unit is to develop the knowledge and skills required for the application of French polish and varnishing that can be applied by non-mechanical means. This Unit is intended to be largely practical in nature and will normally be delivered through workshop activity supported by classroom sessions.

This Unit is suitable for candidates in full or part time study, school leavers and adult returners who are interested in studying the subject of furniture making.

Outcomes

- 1 Describe the properties of materials and the equipment used for hand finishing.
- 2 Apply the correct application of varnish to a panel.
- 3 Apply the correct application of French polish to a panel.

Recommended entry

Entry is at the discretion of the centre. Candidates would benefit from having completed *Polishing: An Introduction* prior to undertaking this Unit.

Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 5: (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5*)

**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.*

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Core Skills

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

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

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

Describe the properties of materials and the equipment used for hand finishing.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify the properties of materials used in hand finishing.
- (b) Describe the equipment used for hand finishing.

Outcome 2

Apply the correct application of varnish to a panel.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Select equipment to apply varnish to a given.
- (b) Select and apply varnish by hand to a given surface.
- (c) Comply with all relevant health and safety requirements.

Outcome 3

Apply the correct application of French polish to a panel.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Select equipment to apply French polish to given surface.
- (b) Select and apply French polish by hand to given surface.
- (c) Comply with all relevant health and safety requirements.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Evidence Requirements for this Unit

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

Outcome 1: Written and/or oral evidence

Evidence must be provided to show the candidates has an understanding of the following for a range of French polishes and varnishes used in furniture making, by identifying and stating **three** properties of at least **three** materials from the following list:

- ◆ Materials:
 - Garnet
 - Button
 - White/transparent
 - Varnish

They must also describe the following equipment and how it is used in hand finishing:

- ◆ Equipment:
 - French polish rubber
 - Brushes
 - Sandpaper

Outcome 2: Performance evidence

Practical Evidence must be produced to show that the candidates can select and apply varnish to a board and/or panel of a minimum area of 200 mm by 200 mm.

Outcome 3: Performance evidence

Practical evidence must be produced to show that the candidate can select and apply French polish to a board and/or panel of a minimum area of 200 mm by 200 mm.

For Outcomes 2 and 3 candidate's will be provided with at least two panels and one frame or substituted for boards but must reach the required surface area 400 × 400 mm. The work should be completed to an acceptable industry standard.

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

In this Unit, candidates will learn how to carry out hand polishing tasks on a variety of surfaces and will demonstrate that they can produce these to an acceptable standard. They will gain knowledge of appropriate hand polishing techniques and equipment. Candidate completing the Unit will be able to work in an industrial polishing shop or workshop environment.

The Unit should be delivered in the context of a fully equipped industrial polishing shop or workshops therefore access to a real workplace environment is necessary.

Health and safety is an important aspect of this Unit. It is vital that the tutor ensure all learners have a sound knowledge of the current legislation, health and safety at work act, COSHH and RIDDOR. It is however the case that the tutor is responsible for ensuring that all regulations are adhered to. If this is done properly candidates will not suffer as a result of accident or injury.

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the National Certificate in Furniture at SCQF level 5. If the Unit is delivered as part of the NC it should delivered in the context of that overall Group Award.

Candidates would benefit from having completed the Unit *Furniture Polishing: An Introduction* prior to undertaking this Unit.

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

This Unit should be delivered in a candidate-centred way. Delivery of Outcomes 2 and 3 would be enhanced through practical demonstration by tutor and candidates should be encouraged to explore the equipment on their own, while ensuring all health and safety procedures are adhered to. Candidate would benefit from many opportunities to practise the skills required for Outcomes 2 and 3 prior to assessment.

It is advised that furniture books featuring hand polishing skills are provided, *Collins Woodworking Manual* is an example.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

Evidence could be recorded on an observational checklist to show that the candidate has demonstrated the ability to produce the specified products by following the appropriate techniques and methods. In addition, the candidate should demonstrate performance evidence that they can follow safe working practice when working in a polishing shop environment.

Each of the Outcomes in this Unit could be assessed individually; however a holistic approach to the assessment process can also be adopted by combining the practical activities of Outcomes 2 and 3.

Outcome 1 is based on cognitive competence and assessing the candidate's abilities through selected or constructive responses. The use of short answer Questions are recommended for this approach.

Outcome 2 and Outcome 3 are based on practical competences and assessing the candidate's abilities through practical tasks. Evidence could be gathered through observation that the candidate has met the given standards during the activity; an assessor observation checklist could be used to record this evidence.

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 social software. 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

There may be opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication, Working with Others, Problem Solving* and Numeracy at SCQF level 4 in this Unit although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

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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