



National 4  
Unit  
Specification



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## Practical Metalworking: Fabrication and Thermal Joining (National 4) Unit

**SCQF:** level 4 (6 SCQF credit points)

**Unit code:** H25S 74

### Unit outline

The general aim of this Unit is to help learners develop skills in fabrication, forming and joining of simple metalwork components. Learners will develop skills in thermal joining techniques and build their skills in measuring and marking out. In addition, learners will develop their knowledge and understanding of metalwork materials, recycling and sustainability issues, as well as an appreciation of safe working practices in a workshop environment.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

- 1 Prepare for metalwork fabrication and joining tasks
- 2 Apply fabrication and joining techniques to form, bend and join metal
- 3 Manufacture a metalwork product from working drawings using fabrication and joining techniques

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the National 4 Practical Metalworking Course and is also available as a free-standing Unit. The Unit Specification should be read in conjunction with the *Unit Support Notes*, which provide advice and guidance on delivery, assessment approaches and development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work. Exemplification of the standards in this Unit is given in *Unit Assessment Support*.

The *Added Value Unit Specification* for the National 4 Practical Metalworking Course gives further mandatory information on Course coverage for learners taking this Unit as part of the National 4 Practical Metalworking Course.

## **Recommended entry**

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. However, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by one or more of the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- ◆ National 3 Practical Craft Skills Course or relevant Units
- ◆ National 3 Design and Technology Course or relevant Units

In terms of prior learning and experience, relevant experiences and outcomes may also provide an appropriate basis for doing this Unit.

## **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. For further information, please refer to the *Unit Support Notes*.

# Standards

## Outcomes and assessment standards

### Outcome 1

The learner will:

#### **1 Prepare for metalwork fabrication and joining tasks by:**

- 1.1 Selecting, with guidance, metalworking tools, equipment, materials and fixings appropriate for tasks
- 1.2 Confirming that metalworking tools and equipment are in good condition and safe working order before, during and after use
- 1.3 Using correct names and terminology when referring to metalworking tools, equipment, materials and processes

### Outcome 2

The learner will:

#### **2 Apply fabrication and joining techniques to form, bend and join metal by:**

- 2.1 Selecting, with guidance, appropriate metals in the form of sections and sheet materials to demonstrate fabrication and joining techniques
- 2.2 Using, with guidance, forming techniques of bending, twisting, drawing down and flattening and to specified tolerance
- 2.3 Carrying out welding, brazing or soldering operations, with guidance, reasonably consistent in width and form and to a minimum length of 30mm
- 2.4 Carrying out spot welding operations, with guidance, reasonably consistent in quality and to form effective joints
- 2.5 Applying, with guidance, a range of mechanical fixings and/or adhesive bonding of metal sections and/or sheet materials, such that connections are secure and with relatively minimal damage in torque and tightening, including pilot holes as required and to specified tolerance in marking out
- 2.6 Using tools and equipment safely and correctly

### Outcome 3

The learner will:

#### **3 Manufacture a metalwork product from working drawings using fabrication and joining techniques by:**

- 3.1 Checking, with guidance, materials against working drawings
- 3.2 Creating and using datum marks, with guidance, and marking out components
- 3.3 Manufacturing, with guidance, a metalwork product with three or more component parts, such that connections are secure and with relatively minimal damage in torque and tightening and to specified tolerance in marking out
- 3.4 Working in accordance with recognised procedures and safe working practices
- 3.5 Carrying out good practice in terms of sustainability and recycling

## Evidence Requirements for the Unit

Assessors should use their professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding of their learners, to determine the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and the conditions and contexts in which they are used.

Evidence may be presented for individual Outcomes or it may be gathered for the Unit as a whole through integrating assessment holistically in one single activity. If the latter approach is used, it must be clear how the evidence covers each Outcome.

For this Unit, learners will be required to provide evidence of:

- ◆ knowledge of a range of practical metalwork fabrication and joining techniques, tools, equipment and materials
- ◆ practical skills in using a range of practical metalworking tools, machines, equipment and materials for metalwork fabrication, joining and related processes
- ◆ knowledge and understanding of sustainability issues and good practice in recycling in practical metalworking activities and environments
- ◆ the ability to work in accordance with given procedures and safe working practices

The joining techniques applicable to this Unit include thermal joining, mechanical joining, and/or the use of adhesives:

- ◆ Thermal — permitted thermal joining techniques come under the three headings of: welding, brazing, and soldering. There are several distinct techniques to be found under each of these headings. Evidence Requirements for this Unit do not preclude any particular thermal joining technique. However, it is acknowledged that, in practice, the range of thermal joining equipment available in educational workshops is likely to be limited.
- ◆ Mechanical — mechanical joining techniques that may be used in this Unit include riveting, bolting, screw fixing, and the use of proprietary metalwork fixings.
- ◆ Adhesive — adhesives used in joining metal sections and sheet workpieces must be of a proprietary metalworking variety.

In Outcome 3, the metalwork product must be comprised of three or more component parts,  
and show evidence of using a minimum of:

- ◆ one forming and one bending technique to specified tolerances
- ◆ welding, brazing or soldering operations to form effective joins (with reasonable consistency in width)
- ◆ use of mechanical fixings or adhesive bonding of metal sections and/or sheet materials (including pilot holes as required), such that fixings are secure, reasonably neat and reasonably free of excess materials, and accurate to specified tolerance in marking out

It is assumed that metalwork components/workpieces and products in this Unit are readily portable. The specified tolerances referred to in the Assessment Standards are:

Operation	Tolerance
Marking out	±1mm
Forming techniques (twisting, drawing down, flattening)	±6mm
Bending work — sheet metal	±3mm
Bending work — metal strip/metal bar	±10mm

The tolerances are also given assuming that available machinery and equipment can reasonably meet these expectations.

Learners at National 4 level are expected to require a reasonable level of guidance and support throughout practical activities.

Exemplification of assessment is provided in *Unit Assessment Support*. Advice and guidance on possible approaches to assessment is provided in the *Unit Support Notes*.

## Assessment standard thresholds

If a candidate successfully meets the requirements of the specified number of Assessment Standards they will be judged to have passed the Unit overall and no further re-assessment will be required.

The specific requirements for this Unit is as follows:

- ◆ 10 out of 14 Assessment Standards must be achieved.

It should be noted that there will still be the requirement for candidates to be given the opportunity to meet all Assessment Standards. The above threshold has been put in place to reduce the volume of re-assessment where that is required.

# Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Unit. The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the Unit are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Unit where there are appropriate opportunities.

## **2 Numeracy**

2.2 Money, time and measurement

## **4 Employability, enterprise and citizenship**

4.3 Working with others

## **5 Thinking skills**

5.2 Understanding

5.4 Creating

Amplification of these is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills should be at the same SCQF level of the Unit and be consistent with the SCQF level descriptor. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work is given in the *Unit Support Notes*.

# Administrative information

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**Superclass:** XD

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## History of changes to National Unit Specification

Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date
1.1	Assessment standard threshold added.	Qualifications Manager	September 2018

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