



National Unit specification

General information

Unit title: Landscape Construction 2 (SCQF level 6)

Unit code: E8C6 12

Superclass: TD

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Version: 01

Unit purpose

This Unit is intended to enable candidates to acquire knowledge of estimating and laying out of landscapes.

Outcomes

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

- 1 Read and interpret landscape plans and specifications.
- 2 Determine the feasibility of proposals for specific sites.
- 3 Determine sources of materials and calculate quantities of materials in relation to a landscape plan.
- 4 Calculate labour requirements in relation to a landscape plan.
- 5 Lay out a site prior to construction of a landscape project.

Credit points and level

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

Recommended entry to the Unit

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would benefit from having attained one of the following, or equivalent:

H1JY 11 *Landscape Construction: An Introduction*
E8C5 12 *Landscape Construction 1*

National Unit specification: General information (cont)

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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

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

Read and interpret landscape plans and specifications.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Landscape features are correctly identified
- (b) Specifications are correctly related to construction features

Outcome 2

Determine the feasibility of proposals for specific sites.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Site characteristics are correctly evaluated
- (b) Suitability of a site is accurately assessed
- (c) A risk assessment is completed for the site
- (d) Accurate conclusions are drawn

Outcome 3

Determine sources of materials and calculate quantities of materials in relation to a landscape plan.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Sources of materials are correctly identified
- (b) Quantities of materials are calculated correctly
- (c) Costs of materials are calculated correctly

Outcome 4

Calculate labour requirements in relation to a landscape plan.

Performance Criteria

- (a) An accurate schedule of operations is produced
- (b) Labour requirements are correctly identified
- (c) Labour costs are accurately calculated
- (d) Additional plant requirements are considered

National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

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Outcome 5

Lay out a site prior to construction of a landscape project.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Heights and levels are correctly identified
- (b) Pegs and lines are set up
- (c) Materials are transported according to safe working practices
- (d) Materials are correctly stored on site

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

For **Outcome 1** the candidate will be required to provide written or oral evidence that covers all the Performance Criteria in the form of ten short answer responses based on one or more landscape plans provided.

For **Outcome 2** the candidate will be required to produce written and/or oral recorded evidence that accurately assesses site suitability. Performance Criteria (c) should be covered by production of a risk assessment.

For **Outcomes 3 and 4**, the candidate will be required to produce written and/or oral recorded evidence that leads to an accurate estimate of costs for a project.

For **Outcome 5** the candidate is required to produce practical evidence, to lay out a site prior to construction of a landscape project.

National Unit Support Notes

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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 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

Corresponding to the Outcomes:

- 1 Calculation of areas of landscape features using a scaled drawing. Calculation of volumes of sub-base materials, foundations, etc. Standard specifications for landscape features are studied and interpretation of any specific instructions is considered.
- 2 Analysis of site characteristics including topography, existing features, access facilities, availability of services, soil and subsoil, bedrock and drainage. Risk assessment is carried out to assess any special precautions.
- 3 Identification of materials manufacturers and comparative prices for similar products. Study of popular landscaping materials, strengths and weaknesses. Local investigation of pricing structures for major materials. Calculations of materials quantities and production of simple spreadsheets or materials lists.
- 4 Production of a schedule of operations using simple Gantt Charts. Calculation of labour costs based on hourly and/or daily rates. Consideration of labour saving tools or plant and comparative costs. Any requirement for specialist contractors.
- 5 Establishment of correct levels. Setting out using line and pegs. Correct manual handling procedures and safe transportation and storage of materials.

Guidance on approaches to delivery of this Unit

Working through Learning Outcomes in sequence will result in an accurate representation of all necessary considerations when preparing for a landscape project.

Several examples of landscape plans could be presented, visits to or from landscape contractors and landscape designers could be arranged. Site visits to landscape projects might be possible. If not, then video representations of a project could be shown. Examples of finished landscape projects showing good practice and a high specification would be useful.

Visits to materials, tools and plant suppliers and catalogues could be used to develop familiarity with products available.

If this Unit is being delivered in conjunction with E8C5 12 *Landscape Construction 1*, it may be possible to utilise plans and specifications produced during the assessment and delivery of *Landscape Construction 1*.

Delivery of practical elements of Outcome 5 could be met in conjunction with preparation for related Units such as E9L6 12 *Hard Landscaping* and D0K0 12 *Soft Landscaping: Planning and Implementation*.

National Unit Support Notes (cont)

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Guidance on approaches to assessment of this Unit

All Outcomes could be assessed by relating each of them to a single supplied plan with detailed specifications.

Learning Outcome 1 could be assessed by written short answer responses or by recorded oral responses.

Outcomes 2, 3 and 4 could be assessed by a project or portfolio combining all the Performance Criteria for all three Outcomes.

Learning Outcome 5 could be assessed by observation of one or more practical exercises which involve setting up and preparation of a landscape project. Achievement of the Performance Criteria could be measured against a checklist.

Evidence can be generated using different types of instruments 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.

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 is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components in this Unit, however there may be opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication, Numeracy, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Problem Solving and Working with Others* at SCQF level 5.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date
–	Original Unit updated into new Shell.	01/11/13

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General information for learners

Unit title: Landscape Construction 2 (SCQF level 6)

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.

You will be required to:

- ◆ Read and interpret plans and specifications for landscape projects.
- ◆ Determine the suitability of specific sites for proposed landscape projects by considering various characteristics including existing features, access facilities, soil type and drainage.
- ◆ Carry out a risk assessment.
- ◆ Identify landscape materials appropriate to the design brief, site and budget.
- ◆ Produce a work schedule that accurately reflects the labour requirements and costs.
- ◆ Lay out a site in accordance to the project plan while adhering to current safe working practices.

As you are doing this Unit you will be developing aspects of the Core Skills in *Communication, Problem Solving* and *Numeracy*.