

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Construction Occupation Practices: An Introduction
(Intermediate 1)

CODE F1JN 10

SUMMARY

This Unit is suitable for candidates who have had little or no experience in the Construction Industry and wish to gain knowledge and understanding of construction practices. The Unit will help to develop the candidates ability to understand the range and type of work involved in the Construction sector and will begin to develop their ability to read and understand and produce simple building drawings as well as how to mark out and measure materials correctly. Candidates who complete this Unit can feel more confident about making progress on a wide range of practical activities in the National Progression Award in Construction.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the main occupations in the Construction Industry.
- 2 Produce basic drawings as used in the Construction Industry.
- 3 Take and record measurements as required for the Construction Industry.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

CREDIT VALUE

0.5 credit at Intermediate 1 level (3 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 4)

**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.*

Administrative Information

Superclass: TE

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

UNIT Construction Occupation Practices: An Introduction (Intermediate 1)

CORE SKILLS

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

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

UNIT Construction Occupation Practices: An Introduction (Intermediate 1)

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 the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

OUTCOME 1

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the main occupations in the Construction Industry.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify the main occupations of the Construction Industry.
- (b) Describe the type of work undertaken by each of these occupations.
- (c) Identify some of the basic types of materials used by these occupations.
- (d) Identify at which stage of a simple construction project each trade would be involved.

OUTCOME 2

Produce basic drawings as used in the Construction Industry.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Produce simple isometric scaled drawings of building components.
- (b) Produce scaled drawings of simple plans and elevations of building components.
- (c) Insert neat printing on each of these drawings.

OUTCOME 3

Take and record measurements as required for the Construction Industry.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Measure and record accurately the heights and widths of various doors and windows.
- (b) Measure and record accurately lengths and widths of various rooms.

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

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

Written and/or oral evidence is required which demonstrates that the candidate has achieved Outcome 1 to the standard specified in the Outcome and Performance Criteria. The evidence for this Outcome should be obtained under controlled, supervised conditions. The assessment will be closed-book and should last no more than 45 minutes.

Written and/or drawing evidence is required which demonstrates that the candidates has achieved Outcomes 2 and 3 to the standard specified in the Outcomes and Performance Criteria. Each candidate will produce two basic labelled drawings of building components and records of accurate measurements.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

UNIT Construction Occupation Practices: An Introduction (Intermediate 1)

Assessment of this Unit should be completed over a period of time and evidence should be gathered at appropriate intervals.

The Assessment Support Pack for this Unit provides sample assessment material. Centres wishing to develop their own assessments should refer to the Assessment Support Pack to ensure a comparable standard.

National Unit Specification: support notes

UNIT Construction Occupation Practices: An Introduction (Intermediate 1)

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 20 hours.

GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

This Unit has been developed as a mandatory Unit in the National Progression Award in Construction and can also be delivered as a freestanding Unit.

This Unit may be integrates with any of the optional Units in the National Progression Award in Construction ensuring that all Outcomes and Performance Criteria are covered.

The content and context of this Unit is set at a basic level in order to allow the candidate to understand the range of trade occupations used, and the work each does in a simple domestic construction project.

The candidate will develop the ability to produce basic working drawings of building components and will be required to measure out and record accurately, the sizes of various parts of a building and some of its component parts.

The learning environment for this Unit will be mainly classroom based however where possible opportunities to enhance learning may include workshop locations.

Health and Safety and Sustainability are integral and key to the Construction Industry therefore throughout the Unit emphasis will be placed where appropriate on the application of Health and Safety and Sustainability. Safety working practices should be looked at in accordance with current safety codes of practice and regulations. Sustainability should include reference to criteria affecting sustainability, impact of not implementing sustainability on the environment and the legislation promoting sustainability

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

This Unit can be delivered alongside any of the optional Units in the National Progression Award in Construction.

The delivery should be based on a practical approach where possible and should expose candidates to basic drawing, measuring and recording techniques. Learning and teaching approaches should include demonstration and practice which will provide candidates with the opportunity to develop their own drawings and records.

Basic drawing practice requires to be taught in an integrated manner which shows the relationship between drawings and tasks to be done. Candidates are to be encouraged to produce drawings of items which they are likely to construct or produce at some later point in time.

Candidates are to be taught how to read a measuring tape accurately and the importance of how to take accurate measurements.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Construction Occupation Practices: An Introduction (Intermediate 1)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Accuracy in taking and recording measurements, as well as in calculating, recording and presenting simple graphic data underpins the competencies assessed in the production of scaled drawings, plans and elevations of building components. Formative opportunities to practise skills in handling numerical and graphical information should focus on Numeracy as a tool to be used by candidates as they learn in relevant work based contexts.

Candidates will develop skills in Problem Solving, that is in critical thinking, planning and organising and reviewing. They will need to take account of all issues which will affect practical work in measuring, recording and drawing. They will consider legal, safety and sustainability concerns, plan an approach to the work and then meet the necessary requirements as they complete tasks. Review and evaluation of achievement with assessor support and guidance should be a naturally occurring process.

There are also opportunities to additionally enhance co-operative working skills as candidates discuss and undertake practical activities, by encouraging them as a group to:

- ◆ identify the main tasks needed in measuring and recording information
- ◆ agree allocation of responsibilities, building on strengths and preferences of individuals
- ◆ seek and provide information and support to each other as needed
- ◆ referring to evidence, identify the strengths and any weaknesses of their own contribution to activities

Although skills in Communication are not formally assessed candidates should be encouraged to develop their abilities to communicate with others orally and in writing to a standard acceptable in the vocational area. They should be provided with opportunities to read a range of current information to support their understanding of Construction Craft Practices. As they undertake the Unit they should be expected to communicate with others using correct terminology and tone and style appropriate to the workplace. Annotation of drawings and plans should be neat and accurate.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Centres may use the Instruments of Assessment which they consider to be most appropriate but are encouraged to use the Assessment Support Pack (ASP) developed centrally by SQA.

The assessment of this Unit can be integrated with trade specific Units within the National Progression Award in Construction. This Unit covers general construction practices which is relevant to all area of the Construction Industry

Outcome 1

The candidate's knowledge and understanding of general construction practices can be assessed through a set of multiple choice questions covering all Performance Criteria in Outcome 1. This assessment should be conducted under controlled, supervised condition. Assessment should show that the candidate has achieved all Performance Criteria and reassessment of any area of this Outcome can be conducted through an oral question/answer session.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Construction Occupation Practices: An Introduction (Intermediate 1)

Outcome 2 and 3

The candidate will be assessed on their ability to produce two basic drawings, one isometric scaled drawing and one scaled drawing of simple plans and elevations, and accurate records of measurement of doors, windows, rooms and building components. The two drawings and accurate measurement record should be submitted as the candidate's assessment evidence. The drawings and measurement records should be clearly labelled.

CANDIDATES WITH DISABILITIES AND/OR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* (www.sqa.org.uk).