



National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Hair Colouring and Lightening (SCQF level 6)

CODE F78P 12

SUMMARY

This Unit has been designed as a mandatory Unit in the National Certificate Group Award (NCGA) in Hairdressing at SCQF level 6 and can also be taken as a free-standing Unit.

In this Unit candidates will focus on effective consultation, selecting suitable products, planning the placement and application of colour and lightening products to produce a variety of current fashion effects.

Candidates will participate in a number of activities which will enable them to combine essential knowledge and practical skills in colouring and lightening.

This Unit is suitable for those who have no prior knowledge of hair colouring and lightening, however it would be advantageous if candidates have knowledge of the hair structure and basic colouring techniques.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the principles of hair colour.
- 2 Identify and describe relevant tests for hair colouring and lightening.
- 3 Consult and prepare for hair colouring and lightening.
- 4 Perform hair colouring and lightening.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Whilst entry is at the discretion of the centre, it would be beneficial if candidates have attained the following or equivalent:

- ◆ F4C4 11: Mix, Apply and Remove Colour

Administrative Information

Superclass: HL

Publication date: July 2009

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

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CREDIT VALUE

2 credits at SCQF level 6 (12 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.*

CORE SKILLS

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components in this Unit. Opportunities for developing aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in *Guidance on Learning and Teaching Approaches*

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

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the principles of hair colour.

Performance Criteria

- (a) State the colours of natural hair pigment.
- (b) Explain the terms depth and tone.
- (c) Describe the effect of specified colour products on the hair structure and their pH values.
- (d) Describe how artificial pigment and hydrogen peroxide work on the hair structure.
- (e) Explain the colour star and name primary and secondary colours.
- (f) Explain how tertiary colours are achieved.
- (f) Identify the effect of specific strengths of hydrogen peroxide on the natural pigment.

OUTCOME 2

Identify and describe relevant tests for hair colouring and lightening.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify and describe how to carry out relevant tests.
- (b) Describe possible results of the tests.
- (c) Outline actions that should be taken based on the results of the tests.

OUTCOME 3

Consult and prepare for hair colouring and lightening.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Prepare client appropriately.
- (b) Confirm and record result of a skin test.
- (c) Consult with client to determine requirements.
- (d) Analyse hair and scalp.
- (e) Identify technique(s) to be used and select suitable colouring/lightening products.
- (e) Identify the placement of colour to achieve required result.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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OUTCOME 4

Perform hair colouring and lightening.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Mix colour/lightening product to be used following manufacturers instructions.
- (b) Apply colour/lightening product using appropriate technique(s), working safely and methodically.
- (c) Monitor development following manufacturer's instructions.
- (d) Remove colour/lightening product effectively.
- (e) Give appropriate advice on colour maintenance.
- (f) Record product, technique, result and advice given on client consultation record.
- (g) Comply with relevant health and safety legislation.

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

Performance, product and written/oral recorded evidence which covers all the Outcomes is required for this Unit.

Outcome 1 Structured questions

Assessment should be carried out under closed-book conditions. The questions must enable the candidates to demonstrate their knowledge of:

- ◆ the colours of natural hair pigment
- ◆ the terms depth and tone
- ◆ the effect of specified colour products on the hair structure and their pH values
- ◆ the specified colour products are semi-permanent, quasi permanent, permanent, and lightening products including bleach
- ◆ how artificial pigment and hydrogen peroxide work on the hair structure
- ◆ the colour star naming primary and secondary colours
- ◆ explain how tertiary colours are achieved
- ◆ the effect of specified strengths of hydrogen peroxide on the natural pigment
— the specified strengths of hydrogen peroxide are 3%; 6%; 9%, 12%

Outcome 2 Assignment

An open book assignment should be used to generate evidence of the relevant tests their possible results and appropriate actions.

Relevant tests are skin test, porosity, elasticity, incompatibility, test cutting, strand test.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Outcomes 3 and 4 Performance evidence

Candidates will be required to demonstrate by practical activity on a minimum of **four** occasions that they are able to:

- ◆ prepare client appropriately
- ◆ confirm and record result of skin test
- ◆ consult with client to determine requirements
- ◆ analyse hair and scalp
 - identify the natural base shade and tone, percentage of white hair
 - identify depth and tone on previously coloured hair
 - identify previous chemical history of hair
- ◆ identify appropriate techniques to be used
- ◆ select suitable colouring/lightening product(s)
- ◆ identify the placement of colour to achieve required result
- ◆ mix colour/lightening product to be used following manufacturers instructions
 - the amount of product mixed must be justified to avoid unnecessary waste
- ◆ apply colour/lightening product using appropriate technique(s), working safely and methodically
 - sectioning must be clean and logical to achieve required result
 - application should be neat and ensure complete coverage
- ◆ monitor development following manufacturer's instructions
- ◆ remove colour/lightening product effectively.
- ◆ give appropriate advice on colour maintenance
 - advice must include suitable colour maintenance products and rescheduling appointment for colour upkeep
- ◆ record product(s) used, technique, result and advice given on client consultation record
- ◆ comply with relevant health and safety legislation

Performance evidence for Outcomes 3 and 4 must be gathered on the same assessment occasion.

Practical performance must be demonstrated on **four different occasions** and must cover the following:

- ◆ weaving
- ◆ current fashion effect
- ◆ combination of two or more colours
- ◆ combination of current techniques

Practical performance must demonstrate the use of semi-permanent, quasi permanent, permanent, and lightening products.

An assessor observation checklist and client consultation record must be used to provide evidence of performance for Outcomes 3 and 4.

The Assessment Support Pack (ASP) provided for this Unit illustrates the standard that should be applied. It includes structured questions for Outcome 1, assignment for Outcome 2, assessor observation checklist and a client consultation record for Outcomes 3 and 4. If a centre wishes to design its own assessments for this Unit, they should be of a comparable standard.

National Unit Specification: support notes

UNIT Hair Colouring and Lightening (SCQF level 6)

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 80 hours.

GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

In this Unit candidates will consult effectively, select suitable products, plan the placement and apply colour and lightening products to produce a variety of current fashion effects.

Candidates will participate in a number of activities which will enable them to combine essential knowledge and practical skills in colouring and lightening.

Key areas of knowledge in this Unit are:

- ◆ natural pigments found in the hair melanin and pheomelanin
- ◆ the terms depth and tone in natural hair colour
- ◆ semi-permanent, quasi-permanent, permanent and lightening products to include bleach and where these products lie on the hair structure
- ◆ the pH scale and effects of acid and alkali colouring and lightening products have on the hair structure
- ◆ how artificial pigment and hydrogen peroxide work on the hair structure, making reference to lightening of natural pigment and the oxidation process
- ◆ explain the process of the effect of lightening products on natural pigment
- ◆ the colour star including primary, secondary and tertiary colours
- ◆ the effect of different strengths of hydrogen peroxide on the natural pigment and their degree of lightening on the natural pigment
- ◆ skin test
- ◆ porosity
- ◆ elasticity
- ◆ incompatibility
- ◆ test cutting
- ◆ strand test
- ◆ how to analyse natural hair colour and tones
- ◆ how to identify existing depths and tones on previously coloured hair
- ◆ choosing appropriate colouring/lightening products based on the result of consultation and analysis
- ◆ preparing and applying suitable products to achieve desired results
- ◆ planning and placement of current colour techniques
- ◆ applying different techniques in colouring hair

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Hair Colouring and Lightening (SCQF level 6)

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

There should be an induction to this Unit which allows candidates to fully understand what is required and the approaches which will be adopted. This Unit has essential theory but should be delivered in a practical context using examples of live practice where possible to facilitate learning. Candidates will therefore understand the relevance of the essential knowledge and understanding more easily.

Candidates will have to develop skills in identifying natural depth and tone, percentages of white hair and existing depth and tone on previously coloured hair it is advised that the use of shade charts be used with help in determining all factors prior to selecting suitable colouring and lightening products.

Candidates should be guided and encouraged to experiment with colour placement in hair to achieve a variety of effects, allowing candidates to develop their own creativity and have confidence in choosing colours and planning looks.

Research into current colour fashion trends, demonstration followed by practice will enable candidates to gain confidence while developing essential skills for the salon industry. Demonstration should include different methods in applying colour, where best to start and different shapes to produce different effects.

To understand the basic principles of hair colour candidates will have knowledge of the main natural pigment found in hair – melanin and pheomelanin. The colour star must be taught in order for the candidate to have a clear understanding of primary, secondary and tertiary colours. Candidates should have a previous knowledge of the hair and skin structure in order to understand where natural pigment comes from. Candidates will have to know the effect of colouring products on the hair structure and how they work. The pH scale must be introduced to give candidates an understanding of the different effects acids and alkalis have on the hair structure with emphasis made on hair deterioration.

Candidates should understand the importance of checks and tests relevant to hair colouring and lightening and how to react to findings, the importance of following manufacturer's instructions, and current relevant health and safety legislation:

Achievement of this Unit will be dependent on candidates understanding and using relevant knowledge when carrying out practical activities which involves clients.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

In this Unit, candidates will carry out practical activities in the salon that involve listening, seeking information and giving advice to clients. This will involve interacting with clients and others. These are good opportunities for developing aspects of the Core Skill *Communication* as well as interpersonal skills. Candidates will be analysing hair and scalp and resulting tests, which will enable them to draw conclusions for appropriate actions to be taken. These are good opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skill *Problem Solving*.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Hair Colouring and Lightening

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

The evidence requirements are fully expressed in the mandatory section of this Unit specification.

There are good opportunities for formative assessment in this Unit.

The Assessment Support Pack (ASP) provided for this Unit illustrates the standard that should be applied. It includes structured questions for Outcome 1, assignment for Outcome 2, assessor observation checklist and a client consultation record for Outcomes 3 and 4. If a centre wishes to design its own assessments for this Unit, they should be of a comparable standard.

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)*.

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