



National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Floorcovering Occupations: Assessing Conditions for Floorcoverings (SCQF level 6)

Unit code: H1H6 12

Superclass: TG

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Summary

This Unit is suitable for candidates working towards a Modern Apprenticeship in Floorcovering Occupations and will develop the candidate's skills and knowledge in assessing conditions for floorcoverings. This Unit is designed to provide candidates with competence in the use of tools and equipment to assess the condition of a floor for different floorcovering and the ability to apply these skills in the workplace.

Outcomes

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of terminology and construction practices used in assessing conditions for floorcoverings.
- 2 Select appropriate tools and equipment for assessing conditions for floorcoverings.
- 3 Assess conditions for floorcoverings.

Recommended entry

While entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, candidates undertaking the Professional Development Award in Floorcovering Occupations at SCQF level 6 must meet the requirements of the Modern Apprenticeships which include being employed in the relevant craft industry.

National Unit specification: general information (cont)

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Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 6 (6 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

Achievement of this Unit gives automatic certification of the following Core Skills component:

Complete Core Skill None

Core Skill component Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5

There are also opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills which are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit specification.

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 terminology and construction practices used in assessing conditions for floorcoverings.

Performance Criteria

- (a) State terminology relevant to assessing conditions for floorcoverings.
- (b) State health and safety factors relevant to assessing conditions for floorcoverings.
- (c) Identify and select construction practices and work methods used in assessing conditions for floorcoverings.
- (d) List the sequence of work used in assessing conditions for floorcoverings.

Outcome 2

Select appropriate tools and equipment for assessing conditions for floorcoverings.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Interpret drawings, specifications and information sources.
- (b) Identify surface and select appropriate tools and equipment for assessing conditions for floorcoverings.
- (c) Calibrate selected equipment according to manufacturer's instructions and specification.
- (d) Select appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the specific task, in accordance with organisational requirements.

Outcome 3

Assess conditions for floorcoverings.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Interpret drawings, specifications and information sources.
- (b) Using appropriate techniques and methodologies, use testing and recording equipment to assess conditions for floorcoverings.
- (c) Record and evaluate the test results using appropriate techniques and procedures.
- (d) Where appropriate, recommend floor surface treatment methods according to assessment outcome.
- (e) Comply with current health and safety and sustainability requirements during all work methods and activities.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Evidence Requirements for this Unit

These Evidence Requirements will be met by the completion of the Floorcovering Occupations Training and Assessment Programme (TAP).

Evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidates have achieved this Unit to the standard specified in all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

Written and/or oral recorded evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved Outcomes 1 and 2 to the standard specified in the Performance Criteria. Candidates will be required to demonstrate their knowledge of terminology and practices by successful completion of a question paper relating to assessing conditions for floorcoverings. This assessment will be conducted under controlled, closed-book supervised conditions.

Product and performance evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved Outcomes 2 and 3 to the standards specified in the Performance Criteria. Performance evidence should be demonstrated by the candidate assessing the suitability of different sub floor surfaces (cementitious surfaces, proprietary screeds, timber surfaces and existing floorcoverings) for the installation of floorcoverings both textile and resilient in sheet and tile form.

Assessment of these Outcomes will be evidenced through observation of work processes and assessment of the completed work. Candidates must meet the given standards during the practical assessment. An assessor observation checklist must be used to record this evidence. Assessment should be conducted under controlled, supervised conditions.

Summary of standards (working towards industrial tolerances)	
Item	Measurement of standard
Risk assessment	
Safety boots	Worn at all times
Hard hat	Worn at all times
High visibility vest	Worn at all times
Gloves	Worn at all times
All other PPE	As risk assessed
Method statement	
Working area	Kept clear at all times
Materials	Stacked safely at all times
Tools (during working)	Handled correctly at all times
Tools (after work)	Cleaned and stored safely
Sustainability	
Waste	Kept to a minimum at all times
Recycling	Materials recycled whenever possible
Waste disposal	Waste disposed correctly/appropriately

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Floorcovering Occupations: Assessing Conditions for Floorcoverings (SCQF level 6)

Outcome 3

Summary of standards (working towards industrial tolerances)	
Item	Measurement of standard
Sub floor: Floor screeds and in-situ bases	BS5325, BS8203, BS8204, BS8201, BS8425
Contamination	Correct cleaning process identified
Subfloor damp test with hygrometer	75% RH BS5325, BS8203, BS8201, BS8425
Floor fittings eg construction joints, service ducts, drainage outlets, mat wells	Right type of fitting to suit floor and correct height for material
Subfloors at ground level protected by damp proofing	BS8204, BS8102
Calcium Sulphate subfloors	Correct drying time up to 40mm – 1mm per day. Higher than 40mm – 2mm per day eg 50mm will take 60 days
Cracks in floors	Crack formation identified and appropriate treatment methods identified eg filled with compatible mortar
Underfloor Heating	Identified and manufacturers' instructions followed before, during and after test
Risk assessment	
Safety boots	Worn at all times
Hard hat	Worn at all times
High visibility vest	Worn at all times
Gloves	Worn at all times
All other PPE	As risk assessed
Method statement	
Working area	Kept clear at all times
Materials	Stacked safely at all times
Tools (during working)	Handled correctly at all times
Tools (after work)	Cleaned and stored safely
Sustainability	
Waste	Kept to a minimum at all times
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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

This Unit has been developed as a mandatory Unit in the Professional Development Award in Floorcovering Occupations at SCQF level 6.

The successful completion of this Unit will provide candidates with the required knowledge and skills relating to investigative techniques and construction practices associated with assessing conditions for floorcoverings with specific knowledge in the equipment used to assess different background surfaces and the correct procedures to remedy problems associated with assessing conditions for floorcoverings.

This Unit would be offered to candidates working towards a Modern Apprenticeship in Floorcovering Occupations and will develop the candidate's skills in assessing conditions for floorcoverings. The skills and knowledge and understanding are transferable within different working environments but the Unit is primarily aimed at candidates whose normal place of work would be a site, workshop, or similar environment.

The Unit deals with the types of conditions that are suitable for laying floorcoverings on a range of surfaces, the tools and equipment available to test conditions, interpret and evaluate findings, identify any potential hazards and adhere to Health and Safety legislation. It should be delivered as part of a structured programme of training and orientated to the context of the candidate's work and area of responsibility.

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 comply 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

Candidates must be given the opportunity to further develop their skills in Floorcovering Occupations by learning about assessing conditions for floorcoverings.

Candidate centred learning and teaching approach are encouraged with candidates actively participating in practical activities after lecturer demonstration of key construction practices and principles.

The use of effective questioning techniques to confirm understanding of salient learning objectives should be central to learning and teaching approaches used in classrooms or workshops.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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Candidates should be encouraged to learn at their own pace with e-learning opportunities available to suit their preferred learning style.

The use of e-learning as a teaching tool should be adopted by lecturers wherever possible to enable candidates to develop at their own pace using preferred learning styles.

Learning and Teaching approaches should ensure that candidates are acquiring the underpinning knowledge required for the Unit in tandem with undertaking practical workshop activities.

There are opportunities for candidates to develop co-operative working skills as the practical assessments may be carried out working in teams or in pairs. Candidates should take equal responsibility for activities and provide support and information to each other during assessments. After assessment, they should be encouraged to consider how effectively they supported each other.

Opportunities should be taken throughout delivery of this Unit to meet the requirements of the PDA generic Units and the Training and Assessment Programme including:

- ◆ *Conform to General Workplace Health, Safety and Welfare*
- ◆ *Confirm Work Activities and Resources for the Work*
- ◆ *Develop and Maintain Good Working Relationships*
- ◆ *Confirm the Occupational Method of Work*
- ◆ *Conform to Productive Working Practices*
- ◆ *Move and Handle Resources*

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

Detailed assessment material for this Unit will be found in the Floorcovering Occupations Training and Assessment Programme (TAP). Centres may use the instruments of assessment which they consider to be most appropriate but are advised to use the Floorcovering Occupations TAP which has been developed centrally by SQA. Any other instruments of assessment used must be comparable to the TAP and have been through prior verification.

The candidates' knowledge and understanding of terminology and construction practices of Floorcovering Occupations will be assessed through a question paper.

Candidates should be given as much practice as possible in assessing conditions for floorcoverings, prior to being set the assessment. Evidence will be gathered for Outcome 2 through observation that the candidates have met the given standards and tolerances during the practical assessment. An assessor observation checklist should be used to record this evidence.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Floorcovering Occupations: Assessing Conditions for Floorcoverings (SCQF level 6)

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

Components of the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 4, such as Planning and Organising and Critical Thinking will be developed as candidates undertake this Unit. Candidates will need to take account of a range of factors in order to work efficiently and safely, such as the interpretation of drawings, choice of tools and appropriate materials, application of scientific principles, risk assessments, health, safety and welfare and a sustainable approach. Individual discussions with assessors will enhance the evaluation of productive work practices.

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of *Working with Others* at SCQF level 4, particularly in Outcomes 3 and 4, as these practical assessments should be carried out in pairs or teams. Candidates can agree responsibilities and provide support and information to each other during the practical group activities.

Opportunities also arise for candidates to develop the Core Skill of *Information and Communication Technology* at SCQF level 3 by researching Health and Safety legislation affecting their area of work, manufacturer's instructions and specifications and interpretation of and drawings.

Numeracy at SCQF level 4 could be enhanced through the knowledge evidence in set out masonry substructures and the practical use of calculation and measuring scales required for teaching and learning assessments for Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 4.

There will be opportunities for candidates to develop the Core Skills of *Communications* at SCQF level 4 through the knowledge part of the assessment for Outcome 1. As candidates complete practical tasks in Outcome 2, they should be expected to communicate with others using the correct terminology, tone and style suited to the workplace while interpreting drawings.

This Unit has the Critical Thinking component of Problem Solving embedded in it. This means that when candidates achieve the Unit, their Core Skills profile will also be updated to show they have achieved Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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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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