



National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Water Features

Unit code: H1JK 12

Superclass: SE

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Version: 01

Summary

This Unit is intended to provide candidates with an understanding of the importance of water in gardens and landscapes and the different types of water features used. They will also develop the knowledge and skills to construct water features.

Outcomes

- 1 Describe the value of water as an element in landscape work.
- 2 Describe the main types of water feature.
- 3 Describe the different methods of retaining water and of creating a running water feature.
- 4 Construct a water feature.

Recommended entry

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre.

Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit(s) 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.*

General information (cont)

Unit title: Water Features

Core Skills

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the support notes of this Unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill component in this Unit.

National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Water Features

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

Describe the value of water as an element in landscape work.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Describe the use of water features within classical garden design.
- (b) Describe the use of water features within modern garden design.
- (c) Describe how water features can enhance a landscape.

Outcome 2

Describe the main types of water feature.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify the main types of water features.
- (b) Describe the practical uses of the main types of water features.

Outcome 3

Describe the different methods of retaining water and of creating a running water feature.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Describe how water is retained in a still water feature.
- (b) Describe how water is retained in a running water feature.
- (c) Describe the principles of creating a running water feature.

Outcome 4

Construct a water feature.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Construct a still or running water feature to a given specification.
- (b) Ensure an appropriate water seal.
- (c) Comply with all relevant Health and Safety regulations.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Water Features

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 require the candidate to produce written and/or recorded oral evidence which meets the requirements of all Performance Criteria. For Outcome 2 the candidate should provide examples of a minimum of seven types of water feature and associated uses.

Outcome 4 requires the candidates to produce practical evidence of their ability to safely construct either a still or running water feature.

National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Water Features

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

The context of this Unit should be broader than the practical requirements of constructing a water feature and should also focus on the how water features have evolved over time, the aesthetic value of water features to a garden and how various water features differ.

The range of water features covered in this Unit could include (but is not limited to) lakes, ponds, gravel pits, canals, reservoirs, informal pools, rivers, streams and burns, cascades and fountains.

Candidates should be encouraged to consider the source of water for various water features and the impact on the environment of the different sources.

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

The delivery of this Unit would be enhanced by the opportunity for candidates to visit different water features (including if possible still and moving water features) in different gardens (traditional and modern) to further their understanding of the contribution of water features to the landscape and environment.

Opportunities for developing Core 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 Skill of *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 5, through the practical activities included in Outcome 4.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Water Features

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

A range of approaches could be taken to the assessment of Outcomes 1, 2 and 3, including extended response questions, an essay or report or a presentation which cover all the Evidence Requirements.

Outcome 4 could be assessed through the use of a practical checklist which could be used to record the candidate's ability to safely construct a water feature to a given specification. The specification should be suitable to the intended site of the water feature and be challenging yet achievable at this level.

If this Unit is delivered as part of the NC in Horticulture at SCQF Level 5, or other relevant Group Awards, it may be possible to integrate the assessment of aspects of this Unit with other within the Group Award. For example it may be possible to integrate the assessment of the practical aspects of Outcome 4 with other practical Units such as *Horticultural Machinery: Operation and Maintenance*, *Use of Hand Tools in Horticulture* and *Landscape Construction: An Introduction*. Such opportunities to integrate assessment will help candidates relate the knowledge and skills they have developed to other contexts.

Opportunities for the use of e-assessment

It may be possible to assess aspects of Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 via e-assessment however the highly practical nature of Outcome 4 does not lend itself to 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

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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