



National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction

Unit code: H1K8 10

Superclass: SL

Publication date: May 2012

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

Summary

On completion of this Unit the candidate will have the basic competence required to lay slabs and brick paviors. The candidate will learn how to interpret drawings, prepare sub bases, handle and transport materials and lay basic paths and paved areas.

Outcomes

- 1 Select appropriate materials for laying paths and walkways.
- 2 Interpret information from working drawings.
- 3 Transport and position materials.
- 4 Lay pathways in concrete slabs.
- 5 Lay paved areas with brick paviors.

Recommended entry

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit(s) at SCQF level 4: (6 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.*

General information (cont)

Unit title: Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction

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 4
 Planning and Organising at SCQF level 4

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

Unit title: Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction

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

Select appropriate materials for laying paths and walkways.

Performance Criteria

- a) Sub-base materials are selected with correct specifications for given activities.
- b) Select appropriate slabs and paviors for a given project.

Outcome 2

Interpret information from working drawings.

Performance Criteria

- a) Levels and heights are correctly established from drawing and transferred on site.
- b) Pegs and lines are set up correctly in accordance with specification.
- c) Levels and falls are established correctly in accordance with specification.
- d) Area to be paved is set out as specified in the drawing.

Outcome 3

Transport and position materials.

Performance Criteria

- a) Tasks are identified, sequentially and planned prior to commencing operations.
- b) Methods of transport are selected correctly.
- c) Location of all material is identified correctly.
- d) Materials are transported in accordance with appropriate health and safety guidelines and undamaged as planned.
- e) Materials are accurately located in identified position.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Outcome 4

Lay pathways in concrete slabs.

Performance Criteria

- a) Bedding material is laid to specified thickness.
- b) Bedding material is screeded correctly.
- c) Bedding material is compacted to specification.
- d) Slabs are laid and jointed to specification
- e) The work methods of and practices demonstrated by the candidate are safe and in accordance with the requirements of all relevant Health and Safety regulations.

Outcome 5

Lay paved areas with brick paviors.

Performance Criteria

- a) Bedding material is laid to specified thickness.
- b) Bedding material is screeded correctly.
- c) Bedding material is compacted to specification.
- d) Brick paviors are laid and jointed to specification.
- e) The work methods of and practices demonstrated by the candidate are safe and in accordance with the requirements of all relevant Health and Safety regulations.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Outcome 1

Written or oral evidence is needed to show that the candidate can select the appropriate bedding materials with correct specification for given tasks.

Written or oral evidence is needed to show that the candidate can chose suitable slabs and paviers for given job situations.

All working practices must be in line with current relevant health and safety legislation and regulations.

All the Performance Criteria must be met.

Outcome 2

Evidence in the form of levels, heights and location of paved area which relates exactly to the working drawing. All pegs and lines to be set and located correctly from the information given on drawing.

All working practices must be in line with current relevant health and safety legislation and regulations

All the Performance Criteria must be met.

Outcome 3

Evidence will consist of a work site fully organised, loaded out with materials and ready for production work to commence.

All working practices must be in line with current relevant health and safety legislation and regulations.

All the Performance Criteria must be met.

Outcome 4

Evidence will be in the form of a simple path or patio area which has been slabbed, jointed and left in a finished state. The slabs will be laid to specifications provided by the teacher/lecturer.

All working practices must be in line with current relevant health and safety legislation and regulations.

All the Performance Criteria must be met.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction

Outcome 5

Evidence will be in the form of a simple path or patio area which has been paved, jointed and left in a finished state. The pavers will be laid to specifications provided by the teacher/lecturer.

All working practices must be in line with current relevant health and safety legislation and regulations.

All the Performance Criteria must be met.

National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction

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 is suitable for anyone wishing to learn how to plan, organise and carry through to completion small to medium construction landscaping projects involving slab laying and brick pavings. The Unit will help candidates to be methodical and logical when planning out work projects, and will also introduce them to problem solving in terms of locating materials in optimum positions with regard to production.

The Unit will introduce the candidate to the initial skills of laying slabs and pavers and is particularly suited to those with an interest in a career in construction or landscaping. The Unit is conducive to an outside site environment as work experience and this may provide most benefit to candidates.

The following may be helpful with regard to specific Outcomes:

Outcome 1

The candidate should be introduced to the wide range of materials which are used in modern construction/landscaping, and given some insight to the considerations to be taken into account when selecting appropriate materials for different situations and different localities. The consequences of incorrect selection should be made clear and whenever possible demonstrated. The candidates should be introduced to projects involving garden paths, private walkways and patio areas.

Outcome 2

Candidates will have to be shown how to extract information from working drawings and transfer and interpret this information to the reality of the site situation. They will have to learn to relate their practical work to the immediate surrounds with north points and orientation recognition. Again the consequences of making errors at this stage must be emphasised and if possible demonstrated.

Candidates should be encouraged at this stage to recognise the importance of being team players and group discussions should be arranged with regard to this. They should also be introduced to measuring, setting out and fixing locations, correct orientation, north point and forming falls.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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Outcome 3

Candidates will have to decide how materials have to be transported with regard to effective and safe working practices. They will also have to make decisions about the most appropriate location for the materials in terms of efficient production and again will have to consider how best to break in to team groups to ensure optimum use of all personnel. They should also be introduced to the use of wheelbarrows, shovels and batten roads for access.

Outcomes 4 and 5

Both these Outcomes are the culmination of all the prior planning and organising. All candidates will lay slabs and pavers to given standards (see checklist) as per working drawing, and candidates should be encouraged to take a positive attitude towards the quality of their own work.

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

The achievement of skills and underpinning knowledge for this Unit would be assisted by information sources which could include: oral or written instructions; working drawings; specifications; manufacturers literature; building standards; a wide variety of samples of slabs and pavers; statutory regulations with regard to safe lifting and handling.

Teachers/lecturers should demonstrate all the practical skills and then allow candidates to attempt to proceed on their own under close supervision. Safe working practices must operate at all times.

Every effort should be made to use the kind of activities, equipment and materials used in the workplace, and to provide candidates with working conditions which reflect those found on a site.

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 Skills of *Communication*, *Problem Solving* and *Working with Others* at SCQF Level 4.

This Unit has the Critical Thinking and Planning and Organising components 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 and Planning and Organising at SCQF level 4.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

Outcome 1

The assessment instrument for this Outcome is a multiple choice/completion item test with a range of questions as follows:

- (a) Sub base materials and specification — four questions
- (b) Slabs and their uses — four questions
- (c) Brick paviors and their uses — four questions

Outcome 2

For the assessment of this Outcome the candidate will be required to set up a series of pegs and lines as established from a working drawing of an area to be slabbed. This Outcome will be recorded on a comprehensive checklist which will specify all stages of the setting out process. This area must be of a reasonable practical dimension and the following should be regarded as minimum. Candidates may be allowed to work in pairs on this assessment provided there is strict observance that each candidate meets the Performance Criteria requirements.

Length 2.4m Width 1.8m (rectangular area) or alternatively
Length 7.2m and width determined by 450mm or 600mm or 900mm slabs.

Outcome 3

This Outcome is assessed by the use of an observation checklist which includes observed performance of the candidate:

- ◆ discussing with colleagues to identify work methods and priorities
- ◆ drawing up work plans in conjunction with colleagues
- ◆ responding to changes as circumstances dictate
- ◆ co-ordinating work with others
- ◆ using effective working processes
- ◆ working safely
- ◆ leaving materials undamaged
- ◆ locating materials correctly
- ◆ stacking materials properly
- ◆ ensuring that materials are ready for use

This checklist should be completed throughout the Outcome with remediation intervention used as required.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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Outcomes 4 and 5

For the assessment of these Outcomes the candidate will produce a slabbed and paved area to the following defined tolerances and standards:

◆ as the working drawing	—	all correct
◆ slabs - face up	—	all correct
◆ surface laid level	—	within 6mm
◆ surface to required run	—	within 10mm
◆ surface laid even	—	no lipping (trip hazard)
◆ surface hollows	—	none (water freezing hazard)
◆ joint finish	—	neat and regular
◆ joint sizes	—	+ or- 3mm
◆ edge alignment	—	within 5mm
◆ slabs set	—	firm (no rocking or movement)
◆ surface finish	—	brushed clean (no staining)
◆ work area	—	left clean and tidy
◆ health and safety	—	throughout working practices

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

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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