



## National Unit specification: general information

**Unit title:** Furniture Upholstery Application

**Unit code:** H3MJ 11

**Superclass:** WK

**Publication date:** April 2013

**Source:** Scottish Qualifications Authority

**Version:** 02

## Summary

This Unit has been designed to provide the candidates with the knowledge and skills required to apply suspension systems, cut and fix fillings and fit final covers to an upholstery frame.

This Unit is suitable for a range of candidates wishing to study furniture making and related industries.

## Outcomes

- 1 Attach suspension systems to an upholstery frame.
- 2 Cut and fix fillings to an upholstery frame.
- 3 Fit final covering material to an upholstery frame.

## Recommended entry

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would benefit from having attained the Unit *Furniture Upholstery: An Introduction*, or equivalent.

## Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 5: (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5\*)

*\*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:** Furniture Upholstery Application

### **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

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:** Furniture Upholstery Application

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**

Attach suspension systems to an upholstery frame.

##### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Select suspension systems appropriate for a range of upholstery frames.
- (b) Install suspension systems to an upholstery frame.
- (c) Comply with all relevant Health and Safety requirements.

#### **Outcome 2**

Cut and fix fillings to an upholstery frame.

##### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Select fillings suitable for an upholstery frame.
- (b) Measure and cut fillings.
- (c) Apply fillings to an upholstery frame.
- (d) Comply with all relevant Health and Safety requirements.

#### **Outcome 3**

Fit final covering material to an upholstery frame.

##### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Make up upholstery covers.
- (b) Fit and fix covers neatly to an upholstery frame.
- (c) Close covers using appropriate methods.
- (d) Comply with all relevant Health and Safety requirements.

## National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

**Unit title:** Furniture Upholstery Application

### Evidence Requirements for this Unit

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

Performance evidences required which demonstrates that the learner has developed and demonstrated how to use the process of attaching suspension systems, cut and fix fillings and fit final covers to an upholstery frame to the standards described in the Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

**Outcome 1:** Attach suspension systems to an upholstery frame

Learner should select and install **webbing** appropriate for an upholstery frame from the following list:

- ◆ Elastic Webbing
- ◆ Jute Webbing
- ◆ Black and White Webbing
- ◆ Rubber Webbing

Learner should select and install **springs** appropriate for an upholstery frame from the following list:

- ◆ Coil Spring
- ◆ Tension Spring
- ◆ Zig-Zag Spring

**Outcome 2:** Cut and fix fillings to an upholstery frame

Learner should select **two** fillings appropriate for an upholstery frame from the following list:

- ◆ Polyurethane Foam
- ◆ Polyester Fibre
- ◆ Latex Foam
- ◆ Animal Hair
- ◆ Felt (cotton or woollen)
- ◆ Cotton Wadding
- ◆ Coir Fibre

Learner should measure and cut **two** types of fillings from:

- ◆ Polyurethane Foam
- ◆ Polyester Fibre
- ◆ Latex Foam
- ◆ Animal Hair
- ◆ Felt (cotton or woollen)
- ◆ Cotton Wadding
- ◆ Coir Fibre

## National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

### Unit title: Furniture Upholstery Application

Learner should accurately fit **two** fillings to an upholstery frame from:

- ◆ Polyurethane Foam
- ◆ Polyester Fibre
- ◆ Latex Foam
- ◆ Animal Hair
- ◆ Felt (cotton or woollen)
- ◆ Cotton Wadding
- ◆ Coir Fibre

### Outcome 3: Fit final covering material to an upholstery frame

Learner should make up and fit covers to an upholstery frame using either:

- ◆ Staples
- ◆ Tacks

Learner should accurately close off an upholstery cover using one method from:

- ◆ Slip Stitching
- ◆ Back Tacking Card
- ◆ Flexible Metal Back Tacking
- ◆ Decorative Nailing

All practical work carried out in this Unit must comply with all relevant Health and Safety requirements at all times.

## National Unit specification: support notes

### Unit title: Furniture Upholstery Application

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

Candidates could carry out the techniques of upholstering on a simple furniture frame perhaps a small lounge chair, bedside chair or stool. A frame suitable to carry out this Unit could be constructed within Unit Furniture Timber Frame from the NC framework. The Unit can be delivered using modern or traditional upholstery materials and methods. Students should consider:

#### Outcome 1: Attach suspension systems to an upholstery frame

- ◆ Appropriate types, gauges, lengths of suspensions for a chair seat and back.
- ◆ Installation methods: Stapling, tacking, tying, stretching, lashing, using spring clips.
- ◆ Select suspensions of a suitable type and quantity to meet the load bearing requirements of the item of furniture to be upholstered.
- ◆ Space and align the suspensions, ensure that the tensioning is adequate.

#### Outcome 2: Cut and fix fillings to an upholstery frame

- ◆ Select correct foam grade or polyester grades for modern upholstery.
- ◆ Select appropriate fillings for traditional upholstery such as hair, coir, cotton felt, woollen felt or cotton wadding.
- ◆ Use scales to weigh natural fillings.
- ◆ Cut foam using electric cutter.
- ◆ Tear felts and waddings to achieve feathered edges.
- ◆ Position and form the fillings to the required shape, density and depth.

#### Outcome 3: Fit final covering material to an upholstery frame

- ◆ Covers can be temporary fixed, ensure correct positioning for pile direction, pattern direction.
- ◆ Covers can have piped/plain seams, be buttoned.
- ◆ Outside back panel is neatly closed off and bottom piece accurately fitted.
- ◆ Covers can be fixed using staples or tacks depending on type of upholstery and condition of frame.

## National Unit specification: support notes

**Unit title:** Furniture Upholstery Application

### Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

The candidate should be introduced to all the relevant tools, materials, equipment and legislation through classroom teaching with the use of powerpoint presentations, online material, DVDs, VLE, reference books, classroom exercises and group discussions. The installation of suspensions, cutting and fixing fillings, methods of fitting and closing covers should be demonstrated thoroughly. Safe working practices should be observed at all times. The teaching approach should ensure the candidate is gaining the underpinning knowledge and practical experience to complete the Unit. This Unit could be integrated with other NC Furniture Units such as *Timber Frame and Polishing: An Introduction*.

### Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

#### Outcome 1

- (a) Evidence for this Outcome could be obtained by a short answer question paper under closed-book supervised conditions.
- (b) Evidence for this Outcome should be gathered through observation that the candidate has met the given standards during the practical activity, an assessor observation checklist could be used to record this evidence.

#### Outcome 2

- (a) Evidence for this Outcome should be obtained by a short answer question paper under closed-book supervised conditions.
- (b) Evidence for this Outcome should be gathered through observation that the candidate has met the Evidence Requirements during the practical activity, an assessor observation checklist could be used to record this evidence.

#### Outcome 3

- (a) and (b) Evidence for this Outcome should be gathered through observation that the candidate has met the given standards during the practical activity, an assessor observation checklist could be used to record this evidence.

### 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)*.

## National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

**Unit title:** Furniture Upholstery Application

### Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of *Numeracy* at SCQF level 4 throughout the Unit as candidates will take measurements, make calculations and estimations.

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of *Communication* at SCQF level 4 through practical tasks, as candidates should be expected to communicate with others using the correct terminology, tone and style suited to the workplace.

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 4. Candidates will need to take account of a range of factors in order to work efficiently and safely, such as the choice of tools and safety equipment. Selecting correct suspensions, fillings and covers for an upholstery frame. Individual discussions with assessors and the use of role play will enhance the evaluation of efficient working practices.

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 4.

### 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](http://www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements)



## History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Core Skills Component Critical Thinking at SCQF level 4 embedded.	22/04/2013

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