



National 4
Course
Specification



National 4 Practical Woodworking Course Specification (C762 74)

Valid from August 2013

This edition: April 2012, version 1.0

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Please refer to the note of changes at the end of this Course Specification for details of changes from previous version (where applicable).

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Course outline

Course title: National 4 Practical Woodworking

SCQF: level 4 (24 SCQF credit points)

Course code: C762 74

Mandatory Units

H25V 74	Practical Woodworking: Flat-frame Construction (National 4)	6 SCQF credit points
H25W 74	Practical Woodworking: Carcase Construction (National 4)	6 SCQF credit points
H25X 74	Practical Woodworking: Machining and Finishing (National 4)	6 SCQF credit points

Added Value Unit

H25Y74	Making a Finished Product from Wood (National 4)	6 SCQF credit points
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This Course includes six SCQF credit points for the assessment of added value in the Added Value Unit. Further information on this Unit is provided in the Assessment section.

Recommended entry

Entry to this Course is at the discretion of the centre. However, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills and knowledge required by the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- ◆ National 3 Practical Craft Skills Course or relevant component Units
- ◆ National 3 Design and Technology Course or relevant component Units

In terms of prior learning and experience, relevant experiences and outcomes may also provide an appropriate basis for doing this Course. Further information on relevant experiences and outcomes is given in the *Course Support Notes*.

Progression

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

- ◆ other qualifications in practical technologies or related areas
- ◆ further study, employment and/or training

Further details are provided in the *Course Support Notes*.

Equality and inclusion

This Course Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. For further information, please refer to the *Course Support Notes*.

Rationale

All new and revised National Courses reflect Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles. They offer flexibility, provide more time for learning, more focus on skills and applying learning, and scope for personalisation and choice.

In this Course, and its component Units, there will be an emphasis on skills development and the application of those skills. Assessment approaches will be proportionate, fit for purpose and will promote best practice, enabling learners to achieve the highest standards they can.

This Course provides learners with opportunities to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

All Courses provide opportunities for learners to develop breadth, challenge and application, but the focus and balance of the assessment will be appropriate for the subject area.

Relationship between the Course and Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles

The Course is largely workshop-based, providing a broad introduction to practical woodworking.

The Course is distinct in value in that it allows learners to develop practical psychomotor skills (manual dexterity and control) in a universally popular practical craft. It helps learners to develop safe working practices and to become proactive in matters of health and safety. It allows them to learn how to use a range of tools, equipment and materials safely and correctly.

The Course is of broad educational benefit. It allows learners to develop skills in reading drawings and diagrams, measuring and marking out, as well as cutting, shaping and finishing materials. It allows them to learn how to work effectively alongside others in a shared workshop environment. The skills that learners acquire by successfully completing this Course will be valuable for learning, for life and for the world of work.

The Course encourages learners to become successful, responsible and creative in their use of technologies. It allows them to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities, including: creativity, flexibility and adaptability; enthusiasm and a willingness to learn; perseverance, independence and resilience; responsibility and reliability; and confidence and enterprise.

The Course provides progression from the National 3 Practical Craft Skills Course as well as relevant experiences and outcomes in expressive arts, craft, design, engineering and graphics.

Purpose and aims of the Course

The Course is practical, exploratory and experiential in nature. It combines elements of technique and standard practice with elements of creativity.

The Course provides opportunities for learners to gain a range of practical woodworking skills and to use a variety of tools, equipment and materials. It allows them to plan activities through to the completion of a finished product in wood.

The Course also gives learners the opportunity to develop thinking, numeracy, and employability, enterprise and citizenship skills.

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to develop:

- ◆ skills in woodworking techniques
- ◆ skills in measuring and marking out timber sections and sheet materials
- ◆ safe working practices in workshop environments
- ◆ practical creativity and problem-solving skills
- ◆ knowledge of sustainability issues in a practical woodworking context

Information about typical learners who might do the Course

This Course is a broad-based qualification for learners with an interest in crafts. It is suitable for learners with an interest in practical woodworking and those wanting to progress to higher levels of study or a related career.

The Course provides opportunities to develop and enhance psychomotor skills, practical creativity, practical problem-solving skills, an appreciation of safe working practices in a workshop environment, and knowledge of sustainability issues in a practical woodworking context.

Course activities also provide opportunities to build self-confidence and to enhance generic and transferable skills in numeracy, employability skills, thinking skills, planning and organising of work tasks, working independently and in collaboration with others, as well as skills in communication and skills in self- and peer-evaluation.

Course structure and conditions of award

Course structure

On completing the Course, learners will have developed skills in practical woodworking. They will have gained skills in the correct use of tools, equipment and a range of woodworking materials, processes and techniques. In addition, learners will gain an appreciation of safe working practices in a workshop environment.

Units are statements of standards for assessment and not programmes of learning and teaching. They can be delivered in a number of ways.

The Course comprises four mandatory Units including the Added Value Unit. Each of the Units of the Course is designed to provide progression to the corresponding Unit at National 5.

Practical Woodworking: Flat-frame Construction (National 4)

This Unit helps learners develop skills in the use of woodworking tools and in the preparation and production of basic flat-frame woodworking joints and assemblies. Learners will learn to read and follow simple woodworking drawings or diagrams.

Practical Woodworking: Carcase Construction (National 4)

This Unit helps learners develop skills in the preparation and production of basic woodworking joints and assemblies suitable for use in carcase construction. This may include working with manufactured board or with frames and panels. The Unit includes the use of simple working drawings or diagrams.

Practical Woodworking: Machining and Finishing (National 4)

This Unit helps learners develop skills in using common machine and power tools. It also helps learners develop skills in a variety of simple woodworking surface preparations and finishing techniques.

In each of the three Units above, learners will develop an appreciation of safe working practices in a workshop environment. They will also gain knowledge and understanding of sustainability issues and good practice in recycling in a practical woodworking context.

The structure of the Course allows learners to cover fundamental woodworking skills in a progressive fashion. Each Unit covers a set of new woodworking skills. All of the Units include skills in measuring, marking out, cutting and jointing techniques.

Added Value Unit: Making a Finished Product from Wood (National 4)

This Unit requires learners to draw on and extend their range of practical woodworking experiences and skills in order to produce an effective overall response to the task. The practical activity will be sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice.

Conditions of award

To achieve the National 4 Practical Woodworking Course, learners must pass all of the required Units, including the Added Value Unit. The required Units are shown in the Course outline section.

National 4 Courses are not graded.

Skills, knowledge and understanding

Full skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course are given in the *Added Value Unit Specification*. A broad overview of the mandatory subject skills, knowledge and understanding that will be assessed in the Course is given in this section. These include:

- ◆ using, with guidance, a range of woodworking tools, equipment and materials safely and correctly for straightforward and familiar woodworking tasks
- ◆ reading and interpreting simple drawings and diagrams in familiar contexts
- ◆ measuring and marking out timber sections and sheet materials in preparation for straightforward cutting and shaping tasks
- ◆ practical creativity in the context of simple and familiar woodworking tasks
- ◆ following, with guidance, given stages of a practical problem-solving approach to woodworking tasks
- ◆ applying knowledge and understanding of safe working practices in a workshop environment
- ◆ knowledge of the basic properties and uses of common woodworking materials
- ◆ knowledge of sustainability issues in a practical woodworking context

Skills, knowledge and understanding to be included in the Course will be appropriate to the SCQF level of the Course. The SCQF level descriptors give further information on characteristics and expected performance at each SCQF level (www.sqa.org.uk/scqf).

Assessment

Further information about assessment for the Course is included in the *Course Support Notes* and the *Added Value Unit Specification*.

Unit assessment

All Units are internally assessed against the requirements shown in the *Unit Specification*.

They can be assessed on an individual Unit basis or by using other approaches which combine the assessment for more than one Unit.

They will be assessed on a pass/fail basis within centres. SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgments are consistent and meet national standards.

The assessment of the Units in this Course will be as follows.

Practical Woodworking: Flat-frame Construction (National 4)

In this Unit, evidence will be required that the learner can produce basic flat-frame joints and assemblies to a given standard. Evidence of knowledge will also be required.

Practical Woodworking: Carcase Construction (National 4)

In this Unit, evidence will be required that the learner can produce basic carcase constructions to a given standard. Evidence of knowledge will also be required.

Practical Woodworking: Machining and Finishing (National 4)

In this Unit, evidence will be required that the learner can carry out simple machining and finishing to a given standard. Evidence of knowledge will also be required.

Added Value Unit

Courses from National 4 to Advanced Higher include assessment of [added value](#)¹. At National 4, added value will be assessed in an Added Value Unit. The Added Value Unit will address the key purposes and aims of the Course, as defined in the Course rationale. It will do this by addressing one or more of breadth, challenge or application.

In the National 4 Practical Woodworking Course, the Added Value Unit will focus on:

- ◆ challenge
- ◆ application

The learner will draw on, extend and apply the skills and knowledge they have developed during the Course. This will be assessed through a [practical activity](#)² which involves producing a finished product in wood to a given standard. The

¹ Definitions can be found here: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/58409.html

² Definitions can be found here: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/58409.html

task will be sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice and for learners to demonstrate practical creativity.

Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Course. The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the Course are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Course where there are appropriate opportunities.

2 Numeracy

2.2 Money, time and measurement

4 Employability, enterprise and citizenship

4.3 Working with others

5 Thinking skills

5.2 Understanding

5.5 Creating

Amplification of these skills is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills will be appropriate to the level of the Course. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work for the Course is given in the *Course Support Notes*.

Administrative information

Published: April 2012 (version 1.0)

History of changes to National Course Specification

Course details	Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date

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