



National 5 Practical Cake Craft Assignment and practical activity Assessment task

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Contents

Introduction	1
Marking instructions	2
Recording documentation	29
Instructions for candidates	32

Introduction

This document contains marking instructions, recording documentation and instructions for candidates for the National 5 Practical Cake Craft assignment and practical activity. It must be read in conjunction with the course specification.

The assignment and practical activity are together worth 100 marks. The marks contribute 100% of the overall marks for the course assessment.

The assignment and practical activity are inter-related and are assessed using one activity. Candidates carry out one task — designing, planning, making, finishing, demonstrating knowledge and understanding, and evaluating the finished cake — this provides evidence for both components.

The assignment and practical activity combined task has four stages:

Stage 1: designing (assignment, section 1) has 17 marks

Stage 2: implementing (practical activity) has 70 marks

Stage 3: demonstrating knowledge and understanding (assignment, section 2)

has 8 marks.

Stage 4: evaluating (assignment, section 3) has 5 marks

Marking instructions

In line with SQA's normal practice, the following marking instructions are addressed to the marker. They will also be helpful for those preparing candidates for course assessment.

Assignment: stage 1: designing, stage 3: demonstrating knowledge and understanding and stage 4: evaluating, will be submitted to SQA for marking.

Practical activity: stage 2: implementing, will be internally marked and quality assured by centre staff, in line with the marking instructions provided in this document.

All marking will be quality assured by SQA.

General marking principles

This information is provided to help you understand the general principles that must be applied when marking candidate responses in this assignment and practical activity. These principles must be read in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidate responses.

- a Marks for each candidate response must **always** be assigned in line with these general marking principles and the detailed marking instructions for this assessment.
- b Marking should always be positive. This means that, for each candidate response, marks are accumulated for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding: they are not deducted from a maximum on the basis of errors or omissions.

Detailed marking instructions for the assignment and practical activity

Stage 1: designing (assignment, section 1) 17 marks

Skill	Marking criteria	6 marks	5 marks	3-4 marks	1-2 marks	0 marks
Design illustration (6 marks)	The design should include: ◆ the occasion selected ◆ cake type, shape, and size ◆ details of the cake coating(s) ◆ details of the colour scheme ◆ cake drum/board type, size, and shape ◆ details of individual finishing decorations	All required information included in detail.	Almost all required information included in detail.	Most required information included in detail. or All required information included, but lacking in detail.	Some required information included, in some detail.	Design illustration produced retrospectively. No required information included. All information included is inaccurate.

Skill	Marking criteria	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Resources (3 marks)	The specialist equipment required to carry out the finishing decoration techniques should:	All specialist equipment identified and given an	Almost all specialist equipment identified and given an appropriate	Some specialist equipment identified and given an appropriate	No specialist equipment identified. No appropriate
	 be identified correctly with an appropriate description of why each piece of equipment is required 	appropriate description.	description.	description.	Specialist equipment and/or description for use produced retrospectively.

Skill	Marking criteria	8 marks	6-7 marks	4-5 marks	1-2 marks	0 marks
Plan of work (8 marks)	 The plan should show all steps to be undertaken for the cake, including: preparation for baking and finishing baking, cooling, and storage finishing application 	All key activities identified in detail and all are correctly sequenced.	Almost all key activities identified in detail.	Most key activities identified. Detail provided for most key activities.	Some key activities identified. Some detail provided for some key activities.	No key activities identified.
	techniques ◆ finishing decoration techniques		Almost all are correctly sequenced.	Most key activities are correctly sequenced.	Some key activities are correctly sequenced.	No key activities correctly sequenced. Plan written retrospectively.

Stage 2: implementing (practical activity) 70 marks

Skill	Marking criteria	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Preparing tin(s) (2 marks)	 Candidates should demonstrate: correct size and shape of cake tin(s) selected in accordance with design illustration cake tin(s) correctly prepared, for example: tin(s) correctly greased, paper cut to correct size and shape, base and side of tin(s) lined appropriately 	All criteria for preparation of tin(s) demonstrated to a high standard.	All criteria for preparation of tin(s) demonstrated but with some inaccuracies. or Some criteria for preparation of tin(s) demonstrated to a high standard.	Incorrect cake tin(s) selected and/or inadequately prepared.

Skill	Marking criteria	5 marks	1-4 marks	0 marks
Weighing,	Candidates should demonstrate:	All criteria for	Some criteria	All weighing/
measuring and	 ◆ all ingredients accurately weighed/measured 	weighing,	for weighing,	measuring
preparing	• all ingredients correctly prepared as necessary, for example:	preparing,	preparing,	carried out
ingredients for	— flour sieved	mixing and	mixing and	inaccurately.
baking and	 fruit washed and dried 	depositing cake	depositing cake	
finishing	 ◆ correct equipment selected for mixing 	ingredients	ingredients	and/or
	 ◆ correct method of incorporating ingredients demonstrated 	demonstrated	demonstrated	
Mixing cake	 ◆ correct consistency achieved as per recipe 	to a high	to a high	All criteria for
ingredients	 mixture deposited correctly into tin(s), for example no air 	standard.	standard.	preparation of
and depositing	gaps, level surface, or surface dipped as necessary			ingredients,
in tin(s)			or	mixing and
(5 marks)				depositing
			All criteria	carried out
			demonstrated	incorrectly.
			but with some	
			inaccuracies.	

Skill	Marking criteria	5 marks	1-4 marks	0 marks
Baking process (5 marks)	 Candidates should demonstrate: ◆ oven shelf in correct position prior to preheating ◆ oven preheated to correct temperature ◆ oven temperature adjusted during baking according to recipe ◆ baking process monitored and cake tested correctly for readiness ◆ cake cooled correctly following baking, according to recipe ◆ cake correctly packaged when cool ◆ cake stored correctly 	All criteria for baking, cooling and storing the cake demonstrated to a high standard.	Some criteria for baking, cooling and storing the cake demonstrated to a high standard. or All criteria demonstrated but with some inaccuracies.	All criteria for baking, cooling and storing the cake carried out incorrectly.

Finishing application techniques (18 marks)

Marks available for each technique are shown below. Marks should only be awarded **once** for each technique. If a candidate demonstrates the same technique more than once, for example coats with marzipan and again with sugar-paste, the mark awarded should reflect both, up to the maximum mark available.

Technique	Marking criteria	3 marks	1-2 marks	0 marks
Preparing cake for finishing (3 marks)	 Candidates should demonstrate: ◆ selection of correct equipment for trimming and/or levelling cake ◆ cake correctly trimmed to produce an even, flat base ◆ minimum wastage during trimming process ◆ any indentations correctly filled 	All criteria for preparing the cake for finishing demonstrated to a high standard.	Some criteria for preparing the cake for finishing demonstrated to a high standard. or All criteria demonstrated but with some inaccuracies.	All criteria for trimming, filling, and levelling the cake carried out incorrectly. or Technique not executed.

Technique	Marking criteria	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Spreading	Candidates should demonstrate:	All criteria for	Some criteria for	All criteria for
(2 marks)	 selection of correct adhesive or spread 	spreading	spreading	spreading carried out
	 preparation of adhesive or spread to achieve 	demonstrated to a high	demonstrated to a	incorrectly.
	correct consistency	standard.	high standard.	
	 even coverage of adhesive or spread 			or
			or	
				Technique not
			All criteria	executed.
			demonstrated but	
			with some	
			inaccuracies.	

Technique	Marking criteria	3 marks	1-2 marks	0 marks
Rolling (3 marks)	Candidates should demonstrate: ◆ correct preparation of product prior to rolling ◆ product rolled to correct size, resulting in minimum waste	All criteria for rolling demonstrated to a high standard.	Some criteria for rolling demonstrated to a high standard.	All criteria for rolling carried out incorrectly.
	 product rolled to correct and consistent thickness 		or	or
			All criteria demonstrated but with some inaccuracies.	Technique not executed.

Technique	Marking criteria	4 marks	1-3 marks	0 marks
Coating (4 marks)	Candidates should demonstrate: ◆ selection of correct equipment and utensils for preparation and application of coating medium(s) ◆ correct preparation of coating product(s) ◆ even coverage of the cake	All criteria for coating demonstrated to a high standard.	Some criteria for coating demonstrated to a high standard. or	All criteria for coating cake carried out incorrectly.
	v even coverage of the care		All criteria demonstrated but with some inaccuracies.	Technique not executed.

Technique	Marking criteria	4 marks	1-3 marks	0 marks
Smoothing (4 marks)	Candidates should demonstrate: ◆ selection of correct equipment and utensils ◆ smooth finish obtained, for example no cracks, lumps, air bubbles, or finger marks	All criteria for smoothing demonstrated to a high standard.	Some criteria for smoothing demonstrated to a high standard. or All criteria demonstrated but with some inaccuracies.	All criteria for smoothing carried out incorrectly. or Technique not executed.

Technique	Marking criteria	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Trimming (2 marks)	Candidates should demonstrate: ◆ trimming coating(s) to required shape ◆ coating(s) trimmed to leave a smooth edge with no gaps	All criteria for trimming demonstrated to a high standard.	Some criteria for trimming demonstrated to a high standard. or All criteria demonstrated but with some inaccuracies.	All criteria for trimming carried out incorrectly. or Technique not executed.

Finishing decoration techniques (30 marks)

Candidates should demonstrate up to **five** finishing decoration techniques and will be awarded marks for these. Candidates may choose to incorporate more than five finishing decoration techniques in their cake, but techniques carried out in addition to the five techniques they have selected for assessment will not be awarded marks.

A maximum of 30 marks is available if:

♦ candidates select **two** of their five techniques from — crimping, modelling and piping which can be awarded up to 9 marks each and a further **three** techniques, are selected from — embossing, stencilling, texturing, and use of commercial aids/cutters, which can be awarded up to 4 marks each.

A maximum of 21 marks is available if:

◆ candidates select one technique from — crimping, modelling and piping which can be awarded up to 9 marks each and a further three techniques are selected from — embossing, stencilling, texturing and use of commercial aids/cutters, which can be awarded up to 4 marks each.

A maximum of 12 marks is available if:

♦ candidates choose not to select any of the crimping, modelling or piping techniques but **three** techniques are selected from — embossing, stencilling, texturing and use of commercial aids/cutters, which can be awarded up to 4 marks each

Points to consider

The finishing decoration techniques which the candidate has chosen for assessment must be identified before marking begins. Teachers and lecturers must refer to the detailed marking instructions when awarding marks for each technique carried out by the candidate. It must be noted that the quantity of the finishing decoration technique demonstrated indicates the highest mark band where marks may be awarded.

If any finishing decoration technique is not fully visible then the candidate cannot achieve the full mark for this technique.

It must also be noted that, for example, where a model includes another technique to provide detail, this is included in the marking of the model. The additional technique cannot be awarded further marks as a separate technique.

Technique	Marking criteria	9 marks	7-8 marks	5-6 marks	1-4 marks	0 marks
Crimping (9 marks)	Candidates should demonstrate: ◆ selection of correct equipment/utensils ◆ correct application of crimping tool, giving even results ◆ process carried out before icing hardens ◆ even spacing and sequencing of pattern ◆ sufficient repetition of technique	Repetition of pattern must be equivalent of completely around the circumference of the cake/cake board. Plus All criteria for crimping demonstrated to a high standard.	Repetition of pattern must be equivalent of completely around the circumference of the cake/cake board. Plus Almost all criteria for crimping demonstrated to a high standard.	Repetition of pattern must be equivalent of at least half of the circumference of the cake/cake board. Plus Almost all criteria for crimping demonstrated to a high standard.	Limited repetition of pattern. Plus Some criteria for crimping demonstrated.	No repetition of pattern. No criteria for crimping carried out correctly. or Technique not executed.

Technique	Marking criteria	9 marks	7-8 marks	5-6 marks	1-4 marks	0 marks
Modelling (9 marks)	Candidates should demonstrate: ◆ selection of correct equipment/utensils ◆ correct preparation of modelling medium ◆ modelling medium coloured as appropriate	Three or more detailed models, for example models of people or animals.	Three or more detailed models, for example of people or animals.	Two detailed models, for example of people or animals.	One detailed model, for example of people or animals.	No criteria for modelling carried out correctly.
	 modelling technique(s) executed to a high standard: models correctly	All criteria for modelling demonstrated to a high standard.	A combination of two detailed models, for example of people or animals, and one or more straightforward models.	Three or more straightforward models.	Two or more straightforward models. or Three or more simple models, for example parcels.	Technique not executed.
			Plus	Plus	Plus	
			Almost all criteria for modelling demonstrated to a high standard.	Most criteria for modelling demonstrated to a high standard.	Some criteria for modelling demonstrated to an acceptable standard.	

Technique	Marking criteria	9 marks	7-8 marks	5-6 marks	1-4 marks	0 marks
Piping (9 marks)	Candidates should demonstrate: • selection of correct equipment/utensils: — appropriate size of piping bag	Repetition of pattern must be equivalent of completely around the circumference of the cake/cake	Repetition of pattern must be equivalent of completely around the circumference of the cake/cake	Repetition of pattern must be equivalent of at least half of the circumference of the cake/cake board.	Limited repetition of pattern.	No repetition of pattern. or No criteria for piping carried
	 correct shape of nozzle appropriate size of nozzle piping medium correctly prepared: correct consistency piping bag correctly filled piping applied correctly: consistent size correct and consistent placement 	More than one piping technique demonstrated, for example rosettes, shells, scrolls, lettering.	More than one piping technique demonstrated, for example rosettes, shells, scrolls, lettering.	More than one piping technique demonstrated, for example rosettes, shells, scrolls, lettering, with most criteria for piping demonstrated to	One piping technique demonstrated, for example rosettes, shells, scrolls, lettering.	out correctly. or Technique not executed.
	 sufficient repetition of technique more than one piping technique demonstrated 	Plus All criteria for piping demonstrated to a high standard.	Plus Almost all criteria for piping demonstrated to a high standard.	a high standard. or One piping technique used, with almost all criteria for piping demonstrated to a high standard.	Plus Some criteria for piping demonstrated to an acceptable standard.	

Technique	Marking criteria	4 marks	2-3 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Embossing (4 marks)	Candidates should demonstrate: ◆ selection of correct equipment/utensils ◆ correct application of embossing tool: — even pressure throughout	Pattern must include at least eight repetitions.	Pattern must include at least eight repetitions.	Pattern includes fewer than eight repetitions.	Limited/no repetition of pattern.
	 correctly positioned technique carried out before icing hardens 	Plus All criteria for	Plus Almost all	Plus Some criteria for	No criteria for embossing carried out correctly.
	 appropriate spacing and sequencing of pattern sufficient repetition of technique 	embossing demonstrated to a high standard.	criteria for embossing demonstrated	embossing demonstrated.	or
					Technique not executed.

Technique	Marking criteria	4 marks	2-3 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Stencilling	Candidates should demonstrate:	At least four	At least four	Fewer than four	Technique not
(4 marks)	 selection of correct equipment/utensils correct application of stencilling tool 	applications of stencil(s).	applications of stencil(s).	applications of stencil(s).	executed.
	technique carried out after icing has hardened	Plus	Plus	Plus	or
	 appropriate positioning of stencilling tool 	All criteria for	Almost all	Some criteria for	No criteria for stencilling carried
	 appropriate consistency of stencilling medium 	stencilling demonstrated to	criteria for stencilling	stencilling demonstrated.	out correctly.
	◆ sufficient repetition of technique	a high standard.	demonstrated.		

Technique	Marking criteria	4 marks	2-3 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Texturing (4 marks)	 Candidates should demonstrate: ◆ selection of correct equipment/utensils ◆ correct application and spacing of texturing tool ◆ technique carried out before icing sets ◆ appropriate spacing and sequencing of pattern sufficient repetition of technique — should texture the equivalent of at least 25% of the top of the cake 	The equivalent of at least 25% of the top of the cake is textured. Plus All criteria for texturing demonstrated to a high standard.	The equivalent of at least 25% of the top of the cake is textured. Plus Almost all criteria for texturing demonstrated.	Less than the equivalent of 25% of the top of the cake is textured. Plus Some criteria for texturing demonstrated.	No criteria for texturing carried out correctly. or Technique not executed.

Technique	Marking criteria	4 marks	2-3 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Use of commercial aid/cutter (4 marks)	 Candidates should demonstrate: ◆ correct selection of equipment/utensils ◆ correct preparation of medium to be cut: — appropriate and even thickness ◆ correct application of aid/cutter: — smooth edges, no tears ◆ suitable adhesive used to fix shape to cake ◆ appropriate positioning on cake ◆ sufficient repetition of technique — at least eight shapes produced and applied, 	At least eight shapes produced and applied. or At least six shapes which have had additional shaping/manipulation applied, for example flower petals with edges tapered produced and applied.	At least eight shapes produced and applied. or At least six shapes which have had additional shaping/manipulation applied, for example flower petals with edges tapered are produced and applied.	Fewer than eight shapes produced and applied. or Fewer than six shapes which have had additional shaping/manipulation applied, for example flower petals with edges tapered are produced and applied.	Limited number of shapes are produced. or Technique not executed.
	or at least six shapes with additional shaping/manipulation applied	Plus All criteria for use of commercial aid/cutter demonstrated to a high standard.	Plus Almost all criteria for use of commercial aid/cutter demonstrated.	Plus Some criteria for use of commercial aid/cutter demonstrated.	Plus No criteria for use of commercial aid/cutter carried out correctly.

Safe and hygienic working practices (5 marks)

Working practice	Marking criteria	3 marks	1-2 marks	0 marks
Hygiene (3 marks)	 Candidates should demonstrate: ◆ acceptable standards of personal hygiene. Must include: — suitable protective clothing worn — hair tied back (if necessary) — no jewellery — no nail varnish ◆ acceptable standards of kitchen hygiene. Must include: — clean, tidy work area at all times — clean equipment ◆ hygienic storage of all food products during the period of assessment 	All tasks were carried out to an acceptable standard of hygiene.	Most tasks were carried out to an acceptable standard of hygiene.	Frequent lapses in hygiene.

Working practice	Marking criteria	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Safety (2 marks)	 Candidates should demonstrate: ◆ safe use of electrical equipment ◆ safe use of knives and other cutting equipment ◆ good standards of oven safety including appropriate use of oven gloves 	All tasks were carried out with due regard to safe working practices.	Most tasks were carried out with due regard to safe working practices.	Frequent lapses in safety.

Quality of finished product (5 marks)

Skill	Marking criteria	Allocation of marks
Finished product (5 marks)	Award up to 5 marks for demonstration that:	Marks for the standard of the finished product should be awarded holistically, taking into consideration all the criteria, up to the maximum of 5 marks.
	 finished product exactly reflects original design colour (when used) is: appropriate to design applied/mixed appropriately all finishing decoration techniques are in scale: with size of cake with each other 	Teachers and lecturers should use professional judgement when awarding these marks.

Stage 3: demonstrating knowledge and understanding (assignment, section 2) 8 marks

Explain why your chosen cake is suitable for the occasion you have selected. (1 mark)

Marking criteria	1 mark	0 marks
Candidates should give a clear, relevant explanation of	Clear explanation of why the	Explanation was not clear.
the suitability of their chosen cake for the occasion they have chosen.	chosen cake is suitable for the occasion that has been selected.	or
		Did not link to the suitability of the
		occasion chosen.

Identify two ingredients from your chosen cake recipe and explain their functional properties in the cake. (2 marks)

Marking criteria	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Candidates should identify two ingredients from their chosen cake recipe.	Two correctly	One correctly	No correctly
	identified	identified ingredient	identified
Candidates should give a clear relevant explanation of their functional	ingredients from	from the candidate's	ingredients from
properties in the cake.	the candidate's	recipe.	the candidate's
	recipe.		recipe.
The candidate must correctly identify an appropriate ingredient from		Plus	
their recipe to gain the mark for explanation.	Plus		or
		One explanation	
Possible candidate response:	Two explanations	clearly linked to the	No explanations
Dark Brown Sugar	clearly linked to	functional property	clearly linked to
This will contribute to the colour of the cake as it will turn golden/dark	the functional	of the ingredient	the functional
brown when exposed to heat/baked.	property of the	identified.	property of the
	ingredient		ingredient
Butter	identified.		identified.
When creamed with the sugar will trap air so will help the cake to			
rise/will give it a lighter texture.			
Or any other valid response.			

Identify a fault which could have occurred when you were making your chosen cake and explain either how this could be

prevented or what might have caused it. (2 marks)

Marking criteria	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Candidates should identify one fault which could have occurred when they were making their chosen cake.	One correct fault identified.	One correct fault identified.	No correct fault identified.
The candidate must correctly identify an appropriate fault to gain the mark for the explanation.	Plus		or Fault identified
Candidates should clearly explain either how the fault could be prevented or what might have caused it.			was incorrect.
Possible candidate response:	One clear explanation of	No explanation given.	No explanation given.
Fault: Cake has peaked and cracked on the top after baking.	either how the fault could be	or	or
Prevention or cause	prevented or		Explanations did
Prevention: The oven should be checked that it is at the correct temperature	what might have caused it.	Explanations did	not clearly link to how the fault
for the cake to be baked at before putting the cake in the oven, this will therefore hopefully prevent this from happening.	Causeu II.	not clearly link to how the fault	could be
OR		could be	prevented or
Cause: This could have happened because the temperature of the oven was		prevented or	what might have
too high, I should have therefore double checked that the oven was the		what might have	caused it.
correct temperature before putting my cake in.		caused it.	
Fault: Fruit has sunk to the bottom of the cake.			
Prevention or cause			
Prevention: The fruit should be tossed in some of the flour for the cake before			
it is added to the mixture, this therefore should prevent the fruit from sinking to the bottom of the cake when baked.			

Marking criteria	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
OR C. T. C.			
Cause: The cake mixture was too wet and the heavy fruit couldn't be held evenly throughout, so it is important to check that the consistency of the cake mixture is correct.			
Fault: The cake has sunk in the middle.			
Prevention or cause			
Prevention: It is important that the oven door is not opened during the baking			
time before the gluten has set, because the cold air could make the cake sink. OR			
Cause: Weighing of the sugar was maybe not accurate and too much sugar was			
added this therefore could cause the gluten to become over softened and the			
cake collapsing in the middle.			
Or any other valid response.			

Choose one processing technique you used in the course from: weighing and measuring, incorporating or depositing and explain why it is important to carry it out correctly. (1 mark)

Marking criteria	1 mark	0 marks
Candidates should give one clear, relevant explanation as to why it is important to	One clear explanation of	No explanation given.
carry out the processing technique correctly.	why it is important to	
Descible and data very and	carry out the processing	or
Possible candidate response:	technique they have chosen correctly.	
Weighing and measuring	chosen correctly.	Explanation did not
Cake recipes rely on accurate proportions of ingredients to form the right structure so		clearly link to why it
if weighing and measuring is not accurate for example, too much flour or not enough		is important to carry
liquid can result in a dry or dense cake.		out the processing
		technique they have
Incorporating		chosen correctly.
It is important to incorporate ingredients correctly when making cakes as it ensures that all ingredients are evenly distributed throughout the batter, therefore ensuring		
that the cake will rise uniformly and results in an even texture without pockets of		
unblended ingredients, which could lead to uneven baking.		
Depositing		
It is important to deposit ingredients evenly to ensure everything mixes properly. For		
example, adding dry ingredients gradually to wet ingredients prevents clumping. Uneven depositing could cause pockets of flour or sugar, resulting in an uneven texture		
or taste.		
Or any other valid response.		

Choose two processing techniques you used in the course from: whisking, creaming, rubbing in, melting, mixing, folding and explain why it is important to carry them out correctly. (2 marks)

Marking criteria	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Candidates should give two clear, relevant explanations as to why it is	Two clear	One clear	No explanations
important to carry out these two processing techniques correctly.	explanations of why	explanation of why it	given.
	it is important to	is important to carry	
Possible candidate response:	carry out the	out one of the	or
Whisking	processing techniques they	processing techniques they have	
It is important to whisk correctly as this help to add air into the	have chosen	chosen correctly.	Explanations did
mixture. This therefore ensures that a light and fluffy texture is	correctly.	chosen correctly.	not clearly link to
created.	Correctly		why it is important
			to carry out the
Creaming			processing
Creaming involves mixing fat and sugar together $-$ it is important to			techniques they
carry this out correctly as the air bubbles become trapped and			have chosen
therefore ensures that the cake mixture is lighter in colour and the			correctly.
volume increases.			
Rubbing in			
Rubbing in is mixing the fat with the flour until the mixture resembles			
breadcrumbs, it creates a light airy texture in the final product, it is			
important to carry this out correctly because if it is not carried out			
properly the cake can be dense or greasy when baked.			
Maltina			
Melting Melting ingredients such as butter, helps to create a smooth batter for			
the cake mixture, it is important to make sure the butter is melted			
correctly because if there are still clumps it could result in the finished			
cake having an uneven texture.			

Marking criteria	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Mixing Mixing is a very important stage in making a cake as it ensures all the ingredients are evenly combined throughout the mixture and if not done correctly can impact the final cake with regards to taste and texture.			
Folding Folding is important as it helps to retain the air in ingredients which have been whisked, if this is not carried out correctly it can deflate the mixture resulting in a denser cake.			
Or any other valid response.			

Stage 4: evaluating (assignment, section 3) 5 marks

Evaluate your completed cake by commenting on colour balance, design proportion or shape. (1 mark)

Marking criteria	1 mark	0 marks
Candidates should evaluate their completed cake by commenting on either colour balance, design proportion or shape. Candidates must: show a clear understanding of either colour balance, design proportions or shape include an appropriate judgement comment on the impact of either colour balance, design proportion or shape on the completed cake Possible candidate response:	One evaluative point clearly linked to the chosen criteria and candidate's completed cake.	No evaluation given. or Evaluation point did not clearly link to the chosen criteria and/or completed cake.
Colour balance The colours which were used in the completed cake contrasted well against each other, the bright pink lettering worked well against the white background, this is good as it helped the lettering stand out and made the cake look visually attractive.		
Design proportion The completed cake had three large models on them, and they were too big for the 15 cm round cake, this is bad as the cake looked too full and cluttered which was not appealing.		
Shape The completed cake was neat and level, this was good as it provided an even surface to place the decorations on. Or any other valid response.		

Evaluate three finishing decoration techniques used in your cake. (3 marks)

Marking criteria	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Candidates should evaluate three of their finishing decoration techniques used	Three	Two	One	No
in their cake.	evaluative	evaluative	evaluative	evaluations
	points	points	point clearly	given.
Candidates must:	clearly	clearly	linked to	
show a clear understanding of the finishing decoration technique	linked to	linked to	one of the	or
 ♦ include an appropriate judgement 	three	two finishing	finishing	
• comment on the impact of the finishing decoration technique used on their	finishing	decoration	decoration	Evaluations
cake.	decoration	techniques	techniques	did not
Descible and date was a second	techniques	and the	and the	clearly link
Possible candidate response:	and the	impact on	impact on	to the
Crimping	impact on	the cake.	the cake.	finishing
Crimping	the cake.			decoration
I carried out crimping all around the edge of my cake board, however my sugar				technique
paste cracked as my sugar paste was not soft enough, this is not good as it meant my cake did not look as good when finished as I wanted.				and the
meant my cake did not took as good when mished as I wanted.				impact on
Modelling				the cake.
The models that I used on my cake were made to an acceptable standard. I				
found this difficult. This is not good as I think I could have made them better				
and made the cake look more appealing and professional.				
and made the cake took more appearing and professional.				
Piping				
I piped a snail trail along the bottom of my cake where it meets the cake board,				
this was good as it made my cake look neat and tidy and more attractive.				
,				
Embossing				
I embossed eight leaves onto the side of my cake and they were evenly pressed				
$-\ \mbox{this}$ is good as it meant all the leaves were an even depth and gave my cake				
an attractive finish.				

Marking criteria	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Stencilling I had four applications of my stencil on my cake, I took time to carry this out and when removing the stencils from the cake I lifted it straight up and didn't drag it, this was good as it meant the cake looked good as there was no smudging.				
Texturing I used a cobblestone effect texture on my cake board, it was even and joined together — this was good as it made it look realistic and enhanced the overall appearance of my cake.				
Using commercial aids or cutters The sugar paste was not rolled to an even thickness before I cut out the letters using the cutters. This was not good as it meant that the letters were all different thicknesses when attached to the cake and it looked messy and spoiled the overall appearance of the finished cake.				
Or any other valid response.				

Evaluate your finished cake in comparison to your design illustration. (1 mark)

Marking criteria		1 mark	0 marks
Candidates should evaluate their finished	ed cake by linking it to their original	One evaluative point clearly	No evaluation given.
design illustration		linked to the finished cake and design illustration.	or
Candidates must:		and design mastration	
show a clear understanding of linking in the standard control of the stan	ng the finished cake to the design		Evaluation point did not
illustration			clearly link to the finished cake and design illustration.
	iges which were or were not made to		cano and coorgin mass anom
the finished cake.			
Possible candidate response:			
I placed two stars either side of my cak	•		
design illustration, as I had only planned	d to have one star placed at the front change as it made my finished cake look		
more balanced and therefore more app	<u> </u>		

Recording documentation

Teachers and lecturers should use the following recording document to record the marks awarded to candidates.

National 5 Practical Cake Craft: practical activity assessment record

In the case of assessment by observation or oral questioning, evidence must include teacher or lecturer comments and other relevant supporting evidence that shows clearly the basis on which assessment judgements have been made.

Candidate name:	Class/group:	Candidate number:
Centre:	Teacher/lecturer:	Date:

Practical activity	Marks available	Mark awarded	Teacher/lecturer comments	Sub- total	Total
Stage 2: implementing				70	
Preparation of tin(s)	2				
Weighing, measuring and preparing ingredients, mixing cake ingredients and depositing in tin	5				
Baking process	5				
Finishing application techniques					
Preparing cake for finishing	3				
Spreading	2				
Rolling	3				
Coating	4				
Smoothing	4				
Trimming	2				

Practical activity	Marks available	Mark awarded	Teacher/lecturer comments	Sub- total	Total
Finishing decoration techniques					
 Enter the five techniques identified for assessment below. Enter the mark awarded for each technique in the 'mark awarded' column. 					
1	9				
2	9				
3	4				
4	4				
5	4				
Hygiene	3				
Safety	2				
Finished product	5				
					70

Instructions for candidates

This assessment applies to the assignment and practical activity for National 5 Practical Cake Craft.

The assignment and practical activity are together worth 100 marks. The marks contribute 100% of the overall marks for the course assessment.

The assignment and practical activity are inter-related and are assessed using one activity. Candidates carry out one task — designing, planning, making, finishing, demonstrating knowledge and understanding, and evaluating the finished cake — this provides evidence for both components.

The assignment and practical activity combined task has four stages:

Stage 1: designing (assignment, section 1) has 17 marks

Stage 2: implementing (practical activity) has 70 marks

Stage 3: demonstrating knowledge and understanding (assignment, section 2) has 8 marks.

Stage 4: evaluating (assignment, section 3) has 5 marks

Your assignment (stages 1, 3 and 4) is submitted to SQA for marking. The practical activity (stage 2) is marked by your teacher or lecturer.

This assignment and practical activity assess the following skills, knowledge and understanding:

- skills in cake baking and cake finishing
- using specialist tools and equipment
- demonstrating creativity
- effective organisational skills
- working safely and hygienically

In this assessment, you will:

- produce a design illustration for your cake based on a given design brief
- identify and explain your choice of specialist equipment that you will use for finishing and decorating your cake
- prepare a plan of work for baking and finishing your cake
- prepare the ingredients and then bake your cake
- prepare fillings and/or coatings and then apply them to your cake using the correct finishing application techniques
- apply finishing decoration techniques to your coated cake
- work safely and hygienically
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding
- give a detailed evaluation of your finished cake

Your teacher or lecturer will let you know how the assessment will be carried out and any required conditions for doing it.

You must complete the four stages of the coursework assessment task using the design brief and criteria on this page.

Design brief: Design, prepare, bake and finish a cake for a special occasion of your choice

Criteria for cake:

- Your cake must be at least 15 cm in length, breadth or diameter.
- Your cake must be made from one of the following categories:
 - Light/medium sponge-type cakes
 - Maderia-type cakes
 - Lightly fruited cakes
 - Heavily fruited cakes

Fillings (if used) and coatings must be appropriate to the cake type selected. You must select them from the list below:

Filling:

- ♦ Buttercream
- ♦ Cream
- ◆ Ganache
- ♦ Jams and curds

Coating:

- ♦ Buttercream
- ♦ Frosting
- ♦ Cream
- ♦ Ganache
- ♦ Melted chocolate
- ♦ Marzipan or almond paste
- ♦ Royal icing
- ♦ Sugar paste

You must prepare your cake and apply the finishing application techniques listed below:

- ♦ coating
- ♦ rolling
- ♦ smoothing
- spreading
- ♦ trimming

You must choose and apply five finishing decoration techniques to your cake, from those listed below:

You must select two techniques from:	You must select three techniques from:			
◆ crimping	◆ embossing			
◆ modelling	◆ stencilling			
◆ piping	◆ texturing			
	 using commercial aids/cutters 			

Stage 1: designing (assignment, section 1) (17 marks)

This part of the assessment is submitted to SQA for marking.

Design illustration (6 marks)

You must produce a design illustration for your cake, this should show both top and side elevations of your cake and it should show clearly what your cake will look like.

The design illustration can be created by any appropriate method and should be completed on a separate sheet of A4 or A3 paper and attached to your candidate workbook.

The design illustration must include the following criteria:

- the special occasion that you have chosen
- the type, size and shape of the cake you have selected
- ♦ the cake coating(s) you will use to finish your cake
- the colour scheme you have chosen for your coating(s) and finishing decorations
- the size and shape of the cake board you will use and any form of decoration that you will include on your cake board
- details of any individual finishing decorations you are going to include

Resources (3 marks)

You must include a copy of the recipe you will use to make your chosen cake. This can be printed on a separate sheet of paper and attached to the candidate workbook.

For stage 2: implementing (practical activity) you must carry out five finishing decoration techniques from a specified list. You must identify in your candidate workbook which of these you wish to be assessed on.

In your candidate workbook you must list the specialist equipment you will use to carry out the finishing decoration techniques. You must describe why each piece of equipment is required to obtain marks for this section.

Plan of work (8 marks)

You must prepare a plan of work for baking and finishing your cake according to your design illustration. You must use the following headings in your candidate workbook to complete the plan of work:

- preparing for baking and finishing
- baking, cooling and storing your cake
- carrying out your chosen finishing application techniques
- carrying out your chosen finishing decoration techniques

Stage 2: implementing - practical activity (70 marks)

Now you must follow your plan to prepare, bake and finish your cake. This part of the assessment is assessed by your teacher or lecturer.

You must include a photograph of your completed cake in your workbook, this is to help with your evaluations.

Stage 3: demonstrating knowledge and understanding — assignment section 2 (8 marks)

You must complete stage 3 and stage 4 under direct supervision from your teacher or lecturer and they must be completed at the same time. You have a maximum of 1 hour to complete both stages.

You will use information gathered in stage 1 of your workbook and from making your cake to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding, by completing a set of questions.

Complete the relevant pages in your workbook in relation to stage 3. Once you have completed stage 3 and stage 4, the workbook must be given to your teacher or lecturer and should not be altered in any way.

Stage 4: evaluating (assignment, section 3) (5 marks)

This stage must be completed at the same time as stage 3, under direct supervision from your teacher or lecturer. You have a maximum of 1 hour to complete both stages.

In this stage you must evaluate your completed cake by completing a set of questions in your workbook.

Administrative information

Published: April 2025 (version 4.0)

History of changes

Version	Description of change	Date
2.0	Detailed marking instructions section amended. Additional mark bands added for assignment, section 1 to clarify marking criteria. Application of marking criteria for practical activity clarified. Extra bullet point added in marking criteria for stencilling.	August 2018
3.0	Detailed marking instructions section amended.	July 2019
4.0	We have removed the question paper component from the course and a new 'demonstrating knowledge and understanding' stage has been added to the assignment. We have reviewed and updated the marking instructions for the assignment and practical activity to ensure marks are appropriately distributed. Stage 1: designing (assignment, section 1) is now 17 marks, with changes to the design illustration and resources marks. Stage 2: implementing (practical activity) remains unchanged but we have updated the marking instructions. It is worth 70 marks. Stage 3: demonstrating knowledge and understanding — we have added this new stage (worth 8 marks) to the assignment. Stage 4: evaluating (assignment, section 3) is now 5 marks and is closed book. Example candidate responses have been updated in the marking instructions which now also cover stages 3 and 4. Guidance from the candidate workbook has been moved to the 'Instructions for candidates' section. Changes have also been made to the format and layout of the document to improve accessibility.	April 2025

What you need to do differently

Stage 1

You must attach the design illustration to the candidate workbook, as the candidate workbook no longer contains a page for this.

There are no marks available for the recipe justification and we have removed the page for inserting the recipe, however, candidates must still include a copy of their recipe with their submitted candidate workbook.

The plan of work section of the candidate workbook now contains distinct headings for candidates to write up their plan of work.

Stage 2

Make sure you are familiar and comfortable with the application of marks for the practical activity before starting any marking.

Stage 3

This is the new section of the assignment. The knowledge and understanding should be naturally occurring through learning and teaching. You should not give this stage to candidates to complete until they have completed stages 1 and 2. We have separated stages 1-2 and stages 3-4 of the candidate workbook into two separate files but you need to submit them together to SQA for marking.

Make sure candidates are familiar with the questions and ensure that they relate their answers to their own cake that they produced in stage 2.

Stage 4

This is now worth 5 marks instead of 10 marks. Make sure candidates know what they need to evaluate and that they must link it specifically to their own cake.

Candidates need to complete stages 3 and 4 at the same time, under closed-book conditions. We have separated stages 1-2 and stages 3-4 of the candidate workbook into two separate files but you need to submit them together to SQA for marking.

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