

Title	Prune semi mature and mature amenity trees in arboriculture situations		
Level	4	Credits	12

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: identify the tree form and features to be emphasised; and prune semi mature and mature amenity trees with hand tools and a chainsaw.
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Classification	Horticulture > Arboriculture
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Available grade	Achieved
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Prerequisites	Unit standard 6917, <i>Demonstrate basic chainsaw operation</i> ; or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.
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Guidance Information

1 Legislation and references relevant to this unit standard include but are not limited to:

- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
- Resource Management Act 1991;
- BS 3998:2010, *Tree work. Recommendations*, available from www.britishstandard.org.uk;
- AS 4373:2007, *Pruning of amenity trees*, available from <https://www.standards.org.au/>;
- ANSI A300, *Standards for Tree Care Operations* (Parts 1 – 7) and their subsequent amendments, available from www.isa-arbor.com;
- WorkSafe New Zealand, *Approved Code of Practice Safety and Health in Arboriculture* (2012), available from www.worksafe.govt.nz/worksafe;
- WorkSafe New Zealand, *Approved Code of Practice for Safety and Health in Tree Work Part 2: Maintenance of trees around power lines* (1996), available from www.worksafe.govt.nz/worksafe;
- New Zealand Arboricultural Association Inc. (NZ Arb), *Best Practice Guide (BPG) for Safety Requirements in New Zealand Arboricultural Operations* (2017), available from www.nzarb.org.nz; and any subsequent amendments.

2 Definitions

Mature amenity tree – one approaching its full growth potential and is mature in form.

Workplace procedures – the policies and procedures on safety and operation set down by the employer or organisation, which should reflect industry best practice, the BPG, equipment manufacturer's requirements, and current legislation.

- 3 It is intended that semi mature and mature amenity trees are climbed to carry out the pruning activities.
- 4 It is recommended that the following unit standards are completed prior to assessment of this unit standard – Unit 31184, *Demonstrate knowledge of pruning trees and shrubs in arboriculture situations*; and Unit 31187, *Prune young amenity trees and shrubs from the ground and above ground in arboriculture situations*.
- 5 For the purposes of assessment:
 - evidence for the practical components of this unit standard must be presented in accordance with workplace procedures.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Identify the tree form and features to be emphasised.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Identify and describe how tree form determines pruning methods.

Range	form may include but is not limited to – columnar, conical, decurrent, diffuse, excurrent, fastigate, horizontal, irregular, weeping. pruning methods may include but are not limited to – crown reduction, crown lifting, crown thinning, remedial prune, dead and diseased wood removal, form pruning. evidence of at least eight is required.
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- 1.2 Describe how pruning can enhance trees in terms of tree features, site specific requirements or characteristics, and/or client requirements.

Range	features may include but are not limited to – arrangement of limbs, bole or trunk, features of the species, flowering, fruiting, future safety and clearances, health, shape, silhouette, timber. evidence of at least five is required.
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- 1.3 Describe target pruning in terms of the location of the final pruning cut.
- 1.4 Identify hazards and manage risks of work involved.
- 1.5 Describe pruning methods for sustainable tree management.

Range	crown reduction, crown lifting, crown thinning, dead and diseased wood removal, form pruning.
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Outcome 2

Prune semi mature and mature amenity trees with hand tools.

Range may include but is not limited to – crown reduction, crown lifting, crown thinning, dead wooding, formative or restoration pruning, removal of damaged branches and stems.
evidence of at least four is required.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Communicate working techniques and progression with ground staff.
- 2.2 Assess trees for pruning requirements.
- 2.3 Carry out pruning with hand tools while above ground.

Outcome 3

Prune semi mature and mature amenity trees with a chainsaw.

Range may include but is not limited to – crown reduction, crown lifting, crown thinning, dead wooding, formative or restoration pruning, removal of damaged branches and stems.
evidence of at least four is required.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Select chainsaw and prepare it for use.
- 3.2 Safely start and use a chainsaw to carry out pruning.

Planned review date	31 December 2025
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	28 January 1995	31 December 2019
Revision	2	24 February 1997	31 December 2019
Review	3	23 November 1999	31 December 2019
Revision	4	13 February 2002	31 December 2019
Revision	5	24 February 2006	31 December 2019
Review	6	11 December 2009	31 December 2019
Review	7	26 April 2018	31 December 2024
Review	8	25 March 2021	N/A
Revision	9	27 January 2022	N/A
Revision	10	29 June 2023	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference

0032

This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Muka Tangata - People, Food and Fibre Workforce Development Council qualifications@mukatangata.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.