

41209 Plan, prepare, erect, and dismantle birdcage scaffolding

Kaupae Level	4
Whiwhinga Credit	10
Whāinga Purpose	This skill standard is for people intending to complete qualifications and credentials in the scaffolding trades. People with this skill standard have the skills to plan, prepare, erect and dismantle birdcage scaffolding and check the structure for compliance. This skill standard aligns with the New Zealand Certificate in Scaffolding (Intermediate) (Level 4) [Ref: 5660].
Whakaakoranga me mātua oti Pre-requisites	New Zealand Certificate in Scaffolding (Elementary) (Level 4) [Ref: 5659] or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.

Hua o te ako me Paearu aromatawai | Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
1. Plan and prepare for the erection of birdcage scaffolding.	a. The birdcage scaffold plan is sketched to meet the confirmed client or supervisor requirements, and the Good Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in NZ.
	b. The necessary equipment is identified and sourced in accordance with the scaffold plan, and the Good Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in NZ.
2. Erect birdcage scaffolding.	a. The scaffolding is based out in accordance with the scaffold plan, and the Good Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in NZ.
	b. The lifts are erected using a safe erection method in accordance with the scaffold plan, and the Good Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in NZ.
	c. The working platform is erected in accordance with the Good Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in NZ.

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
3. Inspect, alter and dismantle birdcage scaffolding.	a. The structure is checked for compliance with the scaffold plan in accordance with the Good Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in NZ.
	b. A plan for the management of the scaffold during its use is developed to prevent overloading, and a handover certificate and verbal handover are completed and delivered to the client.
	c. Alteration involving the need to remove a structural member is performed in accordance with the Good Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in NZ and industry standards.
	d. The altered scaffold is inspected and verified for compliance in accordance with the Good Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in NZ and industry standards.
	e. The scaffold is dismantled in sequence using a safe method of work in accordance with the Good Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in NZ and worksite requirements.

Pārongo aromatawai me te taumata paearu | Assessment information and grade criteria

Assessment specifications:

The candidate must be capable of planning, preparing, erecting and dismantling birdcage scaffolding to the standards expected of a commercially competent scaffolder.

This skill standard has been developed for learning and assessment on-job, or off-job in a simulated environment. Where supervision is required by law, the supervisor must hold the appropriate Certificate of Competence for the scaffolding work undertaken.

Evidence is required of at least one birdcage scaffold which can be a combination of a rectangular and curved birdcage scaffold of at least 3 bays width by 3 bays length.

Assessment should not include scaffolding requiring a Chartered Professional Engineer to certify the adequacy of the design prior to the erection of the scaffold.

Candidates may carry out practical scaffolding activities as part of a team. However, assessment must confirm that each candidate has independently demonstrated competence in all aspects of the required assessment criteria. Evidence must confirm that the candidate has actively and independently applied the relevant skills, knowledge, and safety behaviors across the full scope of the standard, including compliance with regulatory and site-specific requirements.

Commercial competence requires a candidate to be capable of consistently performing the requirements:

- to current regulatory, industry and commercial standards
- within a commercially viable timeframe
- in commercial environments
- with limited supervision
- in different and unfamiliar contexts.

Definitions:

Birdcage scaffolding is defined as an independent scaffold incorporating multiple bays in both directions to fill a void and provide coverage of and/or access to a wide area – generally from the top working platform only. This platform then becomes a ‘floor’ from which to work.

Client is an individual or representative of a company who commissions a particular scaffold or scaffolding structure to be erected or is an end user of the scaffold or scaffolding structure.

Good Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in NZ contain specific requirements for scaffolds. For proprietary scaffolds the guidelines require use of manufacturer's specifications.

Scaffold plan is a key design document prepared by the candidate and used as a basis for the erection of a particular scaffold. For this skill standard, a scaffold plan must be prepared by the candidate.

Scaffolding is as defined in the latest versions of the Good Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in NZ and the Health and Safety in Employment Regulations 1995.

Ngā momo whiwhinga | Grades available

Achieved

Ihirangi waitohu | Indicative content

Technical skills and knowledge

- Interpreting project instructions on agreed work to be carried out.
- Quality management systems.
- Regulatory, industry, Good Practice Guidelines for Scaffolding in NZ and manufacturer operating instructions.
- Scaffold plan – the area to be covered, optimum type of scaffolding available, position of working lift(s) and ground conditions.
- Scaffold plan sketches – number of bays, spacing between bays, bracing, guardrails and planking.
- Birdcage scaffolding requirements – duty loading, the area to be covered, where working lifts are needed and maximum possible bay width.
- Risk controls in the erection and dismantle of non-working lifts – temporary planking, installation of guardrails, fall arrest from above.
- Dismantling – all components removed progressively.
- Methods to maintain clean and tidy sites.
- Safe loading and unloading of tools, equipment, and product.

Communication, literacy and numeracy

- Relevant documentation.
- Workplace communication.
- Interpersonal skills.
- Measurement and calculation.

Rauemi | Resources

Legislation available at <http://legislation.govt.nz>

- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
- The Good Practice Guidelines - Scaffolding in New Zealand (GPG), 2016 available from <https://www.worksafe.govt.nz/topic-and-industry/working-at-height/scaffolding-in-new-zealand/>; and all subsequent amendments and replacements.

Pārongo Whakaū Kouna | Quality assurance information

Ngā rōpū whakatau-paerewa Standard Setting Body	Construction and Specialist Trades Industry Skills Board
Whakaritenga Rārangi Paetae Aromatawai DASS classification	Service Sector > Lifting Equipment > Intermediate Scaffolding
Ko te tohutoro ki ngā Whakaritenga i te Whakamanatanga me te Whakaōritenga CMR	0120

Hātepe Process	Putanga Version	Rā whakaputa Review Date	Rā whakamutunga mō te aromatawai Last date for assessment
Rēhitatanga Registration	1	30 July 2026	N/A
Kōrero whakakapinga Replacement information	This skill standard replaced unit standard 23717.		
Rā arotake Planned review date	31 December 2031		

Please contact the Construction and Specialist Trades Industry Skills Board at info@cstisb.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this skill standard.