Title	Determine grave digging requirements and prepare for digging		
Level	2	Credits	5

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to determine grave digging requirements and prepare for digging.

Classification	Horticulture > Amenity Horticulture
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to:
 - Burial and Cremation Act 1964;
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015; and any subsequent amendments.

2 Definitions

A *grave site* is a place of burial, above and below ground, immediately in front of, and including a headstone where a casket or body is buried. The grave site may or may not be formally identified or lined.

Workplace procedures refer to instructions to staff on policy and procedures which are communicated in verbal or written form. These requirements may include but are not limited to – manufacturers' instructions, company safety requirements, and industry codes of practice and standards. Workplace procedures must include legislative requirements.

3 All evidence presented in this unit standard must be in accordance with workplace procedures.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Determine grave digging requirements.

Performance criteria

1.1 Identify grave site on cemetery map or plan, check physical location and make names of neighbouring plots available for reference.

1.2 Assess the site and surrounding area to determine soil type, safety hazards, entry and exit, and other issues.

Range

soil types may include but are not limited to – sand, clay, rock; safety hazards may include but are not limited to – air, water, vibration, heat, slippery surfaces, overhead obstacles, loadings on top of ground (machinery, people, soil, structures), previously dug graves, monument collapse, foreign objects, drains, cables, sprinklers, pipes, trees and roots; other issues may include but are not limited to – need for soil removal, effect on presentation of nearby sites.

- 1.3 Complete inspection of monumentation on and near the site to determine that site is appropriate before digging commences and notify supervisor.
- 1.4 Select a grave digging method appropriate to the site assessment.

Range grave digging method may include - by hand, using machinery, combination of both

1.5 Determine whether to proceed where water around the site is excessive or uncontrolled.

Outcome 2

Prepare for digging.

Performance criteria

2.1 Select and assemble tools, equipment and machinery consistent with job requirements, check for serviceability, and report any faults.

Range

may include but is not limited to – spreaders; boards; hydraulic braces; stabilisers; spade; shovel; pick; crowbar; auger; timber tong; sledgehammer; timber mallet; explosive power tool; power saw; hand saw; timber of correct grade, size and type; certified ladder; backhoe or front-end loader; skidsteer loader; excavator; tractor; truck; grave sleeves; helmet; tape measure; level and plumb bob; sludge pump where water is present.

- 2.2 Mark out the site in accordance with grave dimensions and supervisor's instructions.
- 2.3 Use protective strategies to protect adjacent graves as required.

Range may include but is not limited to – sheeting, barricades, temporary fencing and reinforced covers.

2.4 Place protective restraints to ensure that only authorised persons are permitted near the site while digging is in progress.

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2.5 Identify above and below ground lines of communication in case of an emergency.

Planned review date 3	31 December 2026
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	20 June 2006	31 December 2024
Review	2	24 February 2022	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0052
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This CMR can be accessed at http://www.nzga.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.