

Title	Backfill and make good graves		
Level	3	Credits	5

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: prepare to backfill and make good a grave; backfill a grave following a burial or grave re-opening; and make good a grave following a burial or grave re-opening.
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Classification	Horticulture > Amenity Horticulture
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 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.
- 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.
- Tools, equipment, and machinery may include but are not limited to – 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/front-end loader; skidsteer loader; excavator; tractor; truck; tape measure; level and plumb bob.
- All evidence presented in this unit standard must be in accordance with workplace procedures.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Prepare to backfill and make good a grave.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Establish social, cultural, and religious requirements prior to commencing backfilling.
- Range may include but is not limited to – burial procedures, time between death and burial, time between burial and closure of graves, spiritual or religious symbolism, placing of tributes and special personal effects.
- 1.2 Identify and locate grave sites.
- 1.3 Prepare and use personal protective equipment.
- Range may include but is not limited to – protective clothing, head protection, foot protection, eye protection, ear protection, sun protection, two-way radio.
- 1.4 Select, assemble and check for serviceability, tools, equipment, and machinery consistent with job requirements, and report any faults.
- 1.5 Confirm to proceed backfilling the grave with the appropriate person.
- Range appropriate person may include but is not limited to – supervisor, foreperson, leading hand, or funeral director.
- 1.6 Identify and control safety hazards.

Outcome 2

Backfill a grave following a burial or grave re-opening.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Use tools, equipment, and machinery in accordance with supervisor's instructions and manufacturer's guidelines.
- 2.2 Remove grave dressings.
- Range may include but is not limited to - grass mats, floral tributes, lowering devices, planks, and covers
- 2.3 Back-fill a burial hole with soil.
- 2.4 Consolidate soil as backfilling progresses.
- 2.5 Remove shoring devices where applicable as each level is reached.
- Range may include but is not limited to – spreaders; boards; hydraulic braces; stabilisers; timber of correct grade, size and type.

- 2.6 Fill the grave to the top.
- 2.7 Minimise cavities using backfilling techniques.

Outcome 3

Make good a grave following a burial or grave re-opening.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Replace turf on lawn or on top of the grave as required.
- 3.2 Notify appropriate person if monumentation requires replacement.
- Range appropriate person may include but is not limited to – supervisor, foreperson, leading hand, or monumental mason.
- 3.3 Clean and make good a grave site.
- 3.4 Replace tributes on the grave site as required.
- 3.5 Clean and make good adjacent grave sites and surrounds.
- 3.6 Remove, clean and store tools, equipment, and machinery

Planned review date	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.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.