

Title	French polish for furniture finishing		
Level	5	Credits	20

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: establish job requirements for furniture finishing; prepare surface and materials for French polishing; apply sealer coat and match up colours; body up surface for French polishing; and dull French polished surface. They are able to work without supervision.
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Classification	Furniture > Furniture Finishing
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 All performances are carried out in accordance with in-company working practices. These must comply with government and local body regulations, manufacturer's instructions, occupational procedures and legislation including: Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, Health and Safety Regulations 1995, Resource Management Act 1991, Dangerous Goods Act 1974, and their amendments.
- 2 This unit standard must be assessed in a commercial furniture finishing environment. Practical assessment evidence of competence must be gathered from commercial jobs in the workplace under normal conditions.
- 3 French Polishing is a furniture finishing technique. In order for credit to be awarded trainees must follow the process outlined below in the order listed:
 - a Prepare surface;
 - b Select and mix Shellac;
 - c Apply sealer coat;
 - d Match up colours;
 - e Smooth surface;
 - f Form rubber for fadding;
 - g Reduce Shellac to fadding viscosity;
 - h Fadd surface;
 - i Select and match colours for touching up;
 - j Touch up where necessary;
 - k Form rubber for bodying up;
 - l Reduce Shellac to bodying up viscosity;
 - m Body up surface;
 - n Allow settling or sinking time;
 - o Sand level;
 - p Body up surface;
 - q Allow settling or sinking time;
 - r Sand level;

- s Form rubber for final body;
- t Reduce Shellac to finishing body viscosity;
- u Body up surface;
- v Spirit off finished surface;
- w Dry and clean finished surface;
- x Dull French polished surface;
- y Clean French polished surface.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Establish job requirements for furniture finishing.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Safety equipment is obtained and worn according to the manufacturer's and the company's requirements.
- Range respiratory protection, gloves, footwear.
- 1.2 Tools and equipment for the job are identified and are selected according to the job specifications.
- Range specifications – oral, written, sample;
tools – abrasive paper, sanding block, knife, brushes, spray gun, pumice powder, rubbers (cotton wool and cotton cloth).

Outcome 2

Prepare surface and materials for French polishing.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Preparation requirements are established according to the piece, and the job specifications.
- Range staining, grain filling, stopping.
- 2.2 Surface is prepared according to the materials and the job specifications.
- 2.3 Application method is selected according to the job specifications.
- 2.4 Shellac is selected and mixed according to the application method and the job specifications.

Outcome 3

Apply sealer coat and match up colours.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Application of Shellac solution to the surface provides a sealer coating for French polishing.
- 3.2 Surface sanding produces a smooth surface according to the job specifications.
- 3.3 Fadding rubber is formed according to the job specifications.
- 3.4 The furniture article is fadded according to the job specifications.
- 3.5 Reduced Shellac is applied according to the furniture article and job specifications.
- 3.6 Touch-up colours match job specifications.
- 3.7 Touching-up eliminates defects in surface colour according to the job specifications.
- Range streaking, contaminants, runs, blooming, ridging, 'burn throughs'.

Outcome 4

Body up surface for French polishing.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Bodied up surface matches furniture article and job specifications.
- 4.2 The bodying up and spiriting off of finished surface removes oil residue according to the job specifications.

Outcome 5

Dull French polished surface.

Performance criteria

- 5.1 Dulling up method is selected according to the job specifications.
- Range one of the following – fine steel wool, pumice powder, burnishing liquid, dulling brush.
- 5.2 French polished surface is dulled according to the furniture article and the job specifications.
- 5.3 Dulled surface is cleaned using a lint-free cloth according to the job specifications.
- 5.4 Equipment and work area are left clean, clear and tidy according to in-company working practice.

This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	9 August 1994	31 December 2023
Review	2	7 May 1997	31 December 2023
Review	3	22 September 2000	31 December 2023
Review	4	26 November 2020	31 December 2023

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0173
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.