

<b>Title</b>	<b>Prune semi mature and mature amenity trees in arboriculture situations</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>12</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	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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<b>Classification</b>	Horticulture > Arboriculture
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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<b>Prerequisites</b>	Unit 6916, <i>Demonstrate knowledge of the rules relating to chainsaw use</i> ; Unit 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](http://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](http://www.isa-arbor.com);
- WorkSafe New Zealand, *Approved Code of Practice Safety and Health in Arboriculture* (2012), available from [www.worksafe.govt.nz/worksafe](http://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](http://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](http://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.

<b>Planned review date</b>	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 2023
Review	8	25 March 2021	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0032
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

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### Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the Primary ITO [standards@primaryito.ac.nz](mailto:standards@primaryito.ac.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.