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City & Guilds

Level 1 Certificate in Furniture Making and Furnishings (600/1974/8)

OVERVIEW

Who is this qualification for?

This qualification is designed for you if you are completely new to furniture and furnishings and want to learn some basic skills in this area. This qualification is done in a college and you don't have to be already in work to take it. Taking this qualification will prepare you to go onto Level 2 furniture and/or furnishings qualifications or to gain employment in a basic furniture production role.

Do you need any experience of qualifications before you take this qualification?

You don't need to have passed any qualifications before you take this qualification.

What age do you need to be?

You need to be 14 years old or over to take this qualification.

What does this qualification cover?

This is a Framework qualification which stands for Qualifications Credit Framework. Qualifications in this framework are broken down into units and each is given a credit value which gives you an idea of how long it takes to take the qualification. Each single credit is worth roughly 10 hours. So as this is 17 credits, it will be roughly 170 hours of study at the college.

The qualification is broken down into units

You will take the following three units

- Materials in furniture making and furnishings
- Tools and equipment within furniture and furnishings
- Health and safety within furniture and furnishing making environments

and then select two more units from the following list according to your interests or future plans:

- Finishing methods in upholstery and soft furnishings
- Furniture making by hand
- Preparation and finishing methods in furniture making
- Upholstery and soft furnishing methods
- Sustainability in the timber trade
- Technical drawings and workshop geometry.

This qualification gives you basic and important skills in health and safety, how to use tools and equipment and how to produce basic items of furniture or furnishings. It also teaches you about how to use materials effectively in order to minimise waste and damage to the environment.

WHAT COULD THIS QUALIFICATION LEAD TO?

This qualification gives you a taste of what furniture and furnishings is all about. It gives you some basic but very important skills and gives you the confidence to go onto any of the following qualifications which are all taken at college.

- Level 2 Diploma in Furniture Finishing Methods (600/3191/8)
- Level 2 Diploma in Furniture Making (600/3228/5)
- Level 2 Diploma in Furniture Installation (600/3201/7)
- Level 2 Diploma in Furniture Hand Finishing Methods (600/3199/2)
- Level 2 Diploma in Furniture Spray Finishing Methods (600/3202/9)
- Level 2 Diploma in Wood Machining (600/1976/1)

Whereas this Level 1 qualification is very basic and general, the above qualifications allow you to specialise in one aspect of furniture and furnishings.

Taking a Level 2 qualification will give you more specialised skills in furniture and furnishings and will increase your chances of employment. However once you have taken the Level 1 Certificate in Furniture Making and Furnishings (600/1974/8) qualification you could seek employment in a basic furniture production role supporting others in the production of furniture pieces or helping with production work around the workshop (whether it be in a small business or a large manufacture) e.g. materials handling/kitting, polishing preparation, frame-making, springing/webbing up and dispatch.

On completion of any of the Level 2 qualifications listed above you could seek employment in any of the following job roles

- furniture maker
- mattress maker
- cabinet/furniture maker

- finisher/polisher
- furniture restorer
- furniture installer
- soft furnisher.

Level 2 is the minimum standard that you would need to get work in any of the above roles as a trainee. You may want to improve your knowledge and skills further by moving to the following qualifications where you will be learning advanced skills:

- Level 3 Diploma in Furniture Design and Making (600/1978/5)
- Level 3 Diploma in Furnishings - Mattress Making (600/3200/5)
- Level 3 Diploma in Furnishings - Modern Upholstery (600/3198/0)
- Level 3 Diploma in Furnishings - Traditional Upholstery (600/3197/9)
- Level 3 Diploma in Wood Machining - CNC Machines (600/3205/4)
- Level 3 Diploma in Wood Machining (600/3206/6)
- Level 3 Diploma in Furniture Installation (600/1977/3)
- Level 3 Diploma in Furniture Restoration (600/2340/5).

You could also try and find a job through an Intermediate apprenticeship in Furniture, furnishings and interiors. The following NVQs are all part of the apprenticeship and you will choose one which matches the job that you are doing in the furniture and furnishings industry.

Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Furniture Making (500/8543/8)
Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Finishing Furniture (500/8530/X)
Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Fitted Furniture and Interiors (500/8463X)
Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Restoring Furniture (500/8462/8)
Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Upholstery and Soft Furnishings (500/9709/X)

Once you have completed the intermediate apprenticeship in 'Furniture, furnishings and interiors' you could then go onto the advanced apprenticeship in Furniture, furnishings and interiors' where you can study any of the following qualifications depending on your job role.

- Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Upholstery and Soft Furnishings (500/9995/4)
- Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Supervision in the Furniture, Furnishings and Interiors Industry (500/8983/3)
- Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Restoring Furniture (500/9045/8)
- Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Finishing Furniture (500/8981/X)
- Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Design in the Furniture, Furnishings and Interior Industry (500/8980/8)

WHO SUPPORTS THIS QUALIFICATION?

This qualification is supported by 'British Furniture Manufacturers Association' which represents the interest of UK furniture manufacturers (Domestic, Office and Contract).

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you want any further information on this or any of the qualifications above, then please visit our website at www.cityandguilds.com and put furniture in the search engine at the top right hand side of the page. This will then direct you to our 'furniture and furnishings' web pages where you can find all the qualification handbooks which tell you about these qualifications.