UNIT C Level 1
Application of Clay Plaster

Learning outcomes
Criteria and indicators

Licence: CC-BY 4.0 Learn•Earth, ecvetearth.hypotheses.org

Revised edition: September 2015

This publication has been funded with support from the European Commission. It reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.
## Knowledge

- Different kinds of surfaces to be plastered
- Properties and criteria for assessment of the background: roughness; absorption capacity; stability
- Areas of use for clay plaster
- Function, thickness and principal differences between base coat and finish coat
- The main methods of bonding layers
- Technical shaping details for corner protection such as rounding; technical finishing details for such as abutment against wood; use of straight cuts where plaster meets flexible building elements; detailing for skirting (boards or tiles)
- Surface finishes and how to create them
- Preparing the background and applying clay plaster:
  - Tools, machinery and equipment
  - The order of work
  - Safe and healthy working practices

## Skills

- Carry out the principal background preparations following instructions (cleaning; create a rough bonding layer from such as reed mat, hessian, rough paint or scratching; apply a key coat)
- Protect adjoining surfaces
- Manually apply one plaster layer on a small surface
- Execute a common sponged surface finish or a floated surface finish
- Use the provided materials, tools and equipment
- Organise the work place
- Comply with workplace safety requirements at all times

## Competence

- Under direct supervision execute appropriate background preparation and manually apply a plaster layer
- Describe the steps taken in applying the layer and finishing the surface
## Criteria Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Quality of the plaster layer  | • The layer adheres to the background  
                                | • The plaster layer is flat - any unevenness, hollows and high points taken out  
                                | • The floated or sponged surface is fairly homogenous  |
| Preparation                   | • The adjoining surfaces are protected  
                                | • The background has been prepared according to instructions  |

Ensure that standards of work and materials comply with relevant codes of practice and to current standards.
## Criteria for the assessment of the method of work (criteria of skills evaluation)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit C</th>
<th>Method of Work</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUB-CRITERIA</strong></td>
<td><strong>INDICATOR</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organisation</td>
<td>• Logical organization of both the work space and the order of work tasks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economy of materials and time</td>
<td>• Optimum use of materials and time – no wastage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Use of tools and machines | • The use of the machines conforms to the operating instructions  
• The use of machines, tools and equipment and the handling of materials is conducted ergonomically  
• The handling and use of tools, machines, equipment and materials is done skillfully and carefully |         |
| Work place | • Tools and machines are cleaned and returned tidily to their correct place |         |
| Safety | • All Protective safeguards are in place  
• The erection of ladders and scaffolding conforms to regulations |         |
| Wastage | • Wastage is appropriately sorted, stored, recycled, removed and disposed of according to regulations |         |
| Communication | • Problems during the working process or any deviation from the specifications are reported  
• The finished work is reported / explained orally  
• Progress and the various stages of work are discussed with the work team  
• Instructions that are not understood are questioned |         |