

# UNIT C Level 4

## Application of Clay Plaster

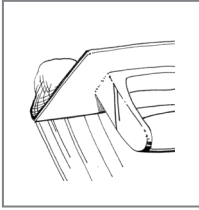
### Learning outcomes Criteria and indicators

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ECVET  
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### Knowledge

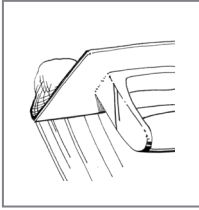
- Different kinds of surfaces to be plastered
- Properties and criteria for assessment of the background: roughness; absorption capacity; stability; homogeneity; rigidity
- Areas of use for clay plaster; particular considerations for areas of high humidity and for exterior clay plaster
- Structural characteristics of the plaster - thickness, function, number of layers and reinforcing mesh
- The main methods of bonding layers
- Technical details for fixing services and furniture
- Technical details for finishing internal and external corners, second fix carpentry, openings and ceiling and floor joins
- Finished plaster quality to achieve the required standard for the particular conditions of use
- Wind and air tightness of plasters and joins
- Surface finishes and how to create them
- Suppliers
- Preparing the background and applying clay plaster:
  - Current legislative workplace requirements
  - Relevant codes of practice and current standards for quality of work and materials
  - Tools, machinery and equipment
  - The order of work
  - Safe and healthy working practices

### Skills

- Carry out the background preparation
- Protect adjoining surfaces
- Prepare all fixing points for services and furniture
- Apply all shaping preparation for joins, corners, openings
- Apply the plaster and produce a flat surface
- Produce straight and rounded edges, finish internal and external corners, openings and joins
- Apply reinforcing mesh
- Apply at appropriate intervals key coat, base and finish coats and achieve the desired finished plaster quality
- Design and execute different surface finishes and textures
  
- Select, calculate and source materials
- Select and use appropriate tools, machinery and equipment to prepare the background and apply different layers including the final surface finish
- Organise the building site
- Comply with current legislation, official guidance and workplace safety requirements at all times

### Competence

- Assess the characteristics of the background and make an appropriate choice of bonding layer and an appropriate choice of plaster structure (the mix, number of layers, thickness of layers, reinforcements)
- Plan and organise all the steps involved from preparation of the background through to the finish for usual and predictable building sites
- Control the quality of the work throughout preparation, application and the finish
- Supervise and co-ordinate the plastering process from preparation through to the finish
- Input into decision making process for the plaster work including choice of final finish
- Advise on plaster structure, application and finish



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### Criteria for the Evaluation of Skills

Criteria	Indicators
Suitability of the plaster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The surface is sound (hard, not dusty or sandy, resistant to damage) for the particular conditions of use</li> <li>• The surface has no cracks</li> <li>• The plaster adheres firmly to the background</li> <li>• The layers are well bonded</li> </ul>
Quality of the surface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The surface flatness is according to the specifications</li> <li>• The surface is homogenous</li> <li>• The finish accords with the specifications</li> </ul>
Quality of detailing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The joints are neat where plaster meets a different material. A straight and neat separation line is executed at junctions with flexible building elements.</li> <li>• The corners are straight and their degree of curvature conforms to the specifications</li> <li>• Pipes and conduit are properly fixed within the plaster leaving no visible trace</li> </ul>
Plaster Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The mix and thickness of the different plaster layers conform to the specifications</li> <li>• The drying time between the different layers is sufficient</li> <li>• The reinforcing mesh is entirely embedded in the plaster layer</li> </ul>
Preparations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The adjoining surfaces are protected</li> <li>• If necessary the background has been cleaned; moistened and keyed</li> <li>• If a background key has been applied, it has been applied correctly</li> </ul>

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)

Unit C	Method of Work	Level 4
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SUB-CRITERIA	INDICATOR
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Organisation	<p>The examinee is able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>locate and access tools, equipment and materials</li> <li>check the availability of building materials</li> <li>logically organise the work space and the order of tasks</li> </ul>
Economy of materials and time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optimum use of materials and time - no wastage</li> </ul>
Use of tools and machines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appropriate choice of tools and machines</li> <li>Machines used according to operating instructions</li> <li>Ergonomic handling and use of machines, tools, equipment and materials</li> <li>Skillful and careful handling and use of tools, machines, equipment and materials</li> </ul>
Work place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tools and material are set out logically for maximum efficiency</li> <li>Tools and machines are cleaned and returned tidily to their correct place</li> <li>Surplus materials are properly collected and stored</li> </ul>
Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The work is completed within the allocated time in accordance with the programme of work</li> </ul>
Safety	<p>Compliance with Construction site health &amp; safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The equipment is appropriate for purpose and has been risk-assessed</li> <li>All Protective safeguards are in place</li> <li>Erection of ladders and scaffolding according to regulations</li> </ul>
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste is appropriately sorted, stored, recycled, removed and disposed of according to regulations</li> </ul>
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Problems during the working process or any deviation from the specifications are reported</li> <li>The finished work is described / explained orally</li> <li>Progress and the various stages of work are discussed with the work team</li> <li>Instructions that are not understood are questioned</li> </ul>