UNIT O Level 3
Decorative techniques

Learning outcomes
Criteria and indicators

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Knowledge
• Decorative elements with clay plaster: cultural and historical diversity
• Basic knowledge of decoration and ornamentation: basic forms, function and effects
• Decorative elements in design with clay
• The process of decoration - from design concept through to execution
• Relief techniques: sgraffito and relief sculpting
• Other techniques: stencilling, imprints, combination with other materials
• Assessment and preparation of backgrounds
• Appropriate plaster mixes for stencilling, sgraffito and relief sculpting
• Appropriate plaster structures: thickness, function, number of layers and reinforcing mesh
• Structural characteristics of the plaster
• Tracings and stencils
• Pattern adjustment for corners
• Planning and making decorative elements:
  • Current legislative workplace requirements
  • Relevant codes of practice and current standards for quality of work and materials
  • Tools, special tools, machinery and equipment
  • The order of work
  • Safe and healthy working practices
Skills
• Design decorative elements with clay plaster for a wall
• Prepare and test plasters for one of the decorative techniques
• Assess and if necessary prepare the background
• Make tracings
• Transfer decorative elements to the wall
• Make samples of different decorative elements through stencilling, sgraffito or relief sculpting
• Execute the decorative elements for a wall following the design brief
• Calculate quantities, check supplies and prepare materials
• Select and use appropriate tools, machinery and equipment for different decorative techniques
• Organise the work place
• Comply with current legislation, official guidance and workplace safety requirements at all times

Competence
• Draft a proposal for a decorative element for a wall with reference to basic decorative and ornamental theory
• With the materials provided plan and organise all the steps in executing a given design for a decorative element as for usual and predictable building sites
• Be aware of the value of experimental work in the personal creative process
• Control the quality of the transference and execution of the decorative element
• Work in accordance with the building schedule and with other trades, identify problems and record and report in accordance with occupational procedure
• Advise on design options for decorative elements and on the application of stenciling, sgraffito and relief sculpting
## Decorative techniques

### Criteria for the Evaluation of Skills

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<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
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| Execution of the design concept            | • The optical effect of the decorative element conforms to the design concept  
                                           | • The location of the decorative element conforms to the design brief  
                                           | • Colour, texture and surface structure conform to the design brief  
| Quality of the plaster mix                 | • The proportions to ensure a stable decorative element surface without cracks are correct  
| Workability                                 | • The consistency is appropriate for the thickness of the layer and for the application technique  
                                           | • The grain and fiber size are appropriate for the application technique  
| Recipe                                      | • Test samples are clearly marked with the proportions and ingredients  
                                           | • The chosen plaster mix from the test  
                                           | • is suitable for the selected surface finishing technique  
                                           | • is suitable for the selected decorative technique  
                                           | • The quantities of the different constituents have been calculated according to the recipe  
| Surface quality                             | • The colour is homogeneous  
                                           | • The surface is homogeneous with regard to the surface finish  
| Quality of the form                         | • The size, shape and thickness of the relief sculpting conform to the design brief  
                                           | • The correct plaster structure ensures both good background adhesion and crack free finish of the decorative technique  
                                           | • The motif is neat  
                                           | • in the case of sgraffito, lines and forms are scratched to leave clean and regular edges  
                                           | • in the case of relief sculpting there is regularity of form  
| Quality of Detailing                        | • The decorative element is neatly joined to the plaster surface  
| Preparation                                 | • The materials are soaked and sieved and conform to the instructions  
                                           | • The adjoining surfaces are protected  
                                           | • the background has been prepared and conforms to the 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)

**Unit O** | **Method of Work** | **Level 3**
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### SUB-CRITERIA | INDICATOR
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**Organisation** | The examinee is able to:
  - locate and access tools, equipment and materials
  - check the availability of building materials
  - logically organise the work space and the order of tasks
**Economy of materials and time** | Optimum use of materials and time - no wastage
**Use of tools and machines** | Appropriate choice of tools and machines
  - Machines used according to operating instructions
  - Ergonomic handling and use of machines, tools, equipment and materials
  - Skillful and careful handling and use of tools, machines, equipment and materials
**Work place** | Tools and material are set out logically for maximum efficiency
  - Tools and machines are cleaned and returned tidily to their correct place
  - Surplus materials are properly collected and stored
**Time** | The work is completed within the allocated time in accordance with the programme of work
**Safety** | Compliance with Construction site health & safety
  - The equipment is appropriate for purpose and has been risk-assessed
  - All Protective safeguards are in place
  - Erection of ladders and scaffolding according to regulations
**Waste** | Waste 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 described / explained orally
  - Progress and the various stages of work are discussed with the work team
  - Instructions that are not understood are questioned