UNIT O Level 4
Decorative techniques

Learning outcomes
Criteria and indicators

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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

- Decorative elements with clay plaster: cultural and historical diversity
- Basic knowledge of decoration and ornamentation: types, classifications, function, properties
- 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 the different techniques
- Appropriate plaster structures: thickness, function, number of layers and reinforcing mesh
- 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

- Develop a design concept with decorative elements for a room
- Prepare the plasters for the different techniques
- Make tests and samples for sgraffito, stencilling and relief sculpting
- Assess and if necessary prepare the background
- Make stencils and tracings
- Transfer decorative elements to the wall
- Make samples of different decorative techniques
- Execute the decorative elements for a room following the design brief
- Select, calculate and source materials
- Select and use appropriate tools, machinery and equipment for different decorative techniques
- Organise the building site
- Comply with current legislation, official guidance and workplace safety requirements at all times

## Competence

- Outline design concepts with reference to basic decorative and ornamental theory and theory of interior design
- Plan and organise the decorative elements from initial design concept through to execution for usual and predictable building sites
- Be aware of the value of experimental work in the personal creative process
- Control the work process – accurate transference and execution of the design, colour and finish quality of the decorative elements
- Supervise and co-ordinate the plastering process in realising the design
- Input into the design concept and co-ordination of all the processes involved in realising the design
- Advise on the decorative use of these techniques
## Decorative techniques

### Criteria for the Evaluation of Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<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 plaster are correct  
• The finish has no cracks  
• The grain size is correct for the decorative technique  
• The fiber choice and content are appropriate for the layer and for the decorative technique |
| **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 decorative technique  
• is suitable for the surface finish technique  
• is clearly written down and can be repeated  
• 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 scgraffito, 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  
• has harmonious pattern adjustment for corners |
| **Preparation** | • The materials are soaked for the appropriate time  
• The materials are sized and sieved for the appropriate purpose  
• The adjoining surfaces are protected  
• If necessary the background has been cleaned, moistened and keyed |

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 O</th>
<th>Method of Work</th>
<th>Level 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUB-CRITERIA</strong></td>
<td><strong>INDICATOR</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Organisation</strong></td>
<td>The examinee is able to:</td>
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<td>• locate and access tools, equipment and materials</td>
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<td>• check the availability of building materials</td>
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<td>• logically organise the work space and the order of tasks</td>
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<td><strong>Economy of materials and time</strong></td>
<td>• Optimum use of materials and time - no wastage</td>
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<td><strong>Use of tools and machines</strong></td>
<td>• Appropriate choice of tools and machines</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Machines used according to operating instructions</td>
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<td>• Ergonomic handling and use of machines, tools, equipment and materials</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Skillful and careful handling and use of tools, machines, equipment and materials</td>
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<td><strong>Work place</strong></td>
<td>• Tools and material are set out logically for maximum efficiency</td>
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<td>• Tools and machines are cleaned and returned tidily to their correct place</td>
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<td>• Surplus materials are properly collected and stored</td>
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<td><strong>Time</strong></td>
<td>• The work is completed within the allocated time in accordance with the programme of work</td>
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<td><strong>Safety</strong></td>
<td>Compliance with Construction site health &amp; safety</td>
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<td>• The equipment is appropriate for purpose and has been risk-assessed</td>
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<td>• All Protective safeguards are in place</td>
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<td>• Erection of ladders and scaffolding according to regulations</td>
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<td><strong>Waste</strong></td>
<td>• Waste is appropriately sorted, stored, recycled, removed and disposed of according to regulations</td>
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<td><strong>Communication</strong></td>
<td>• Problems during the working process or any deviation from the specifications are reported</td>
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<td>• The finished work is described / explained orally</td>
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<td>• Progress and the various stages of work are discussed with the work team</td>
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<td>• Instructions that are not understood are questioned</td>
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