

# PROFFI248

## Assess and repair items of furniture



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### Overview

This standard the competence required to strip down an item of furniture ready for work to be carried out on it. This is particularly relevant to work in upholstery, repair and restoration contexts. This involves

- 1 Assessing an item of furniture for repair
- 2 Repairing furniture components

There is also a scope statement which defines the coverage of this standard.

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### Performance criteria

#### Asses an item of furniture for repair

*You must be able to:*

- P1 obtain the **specification** for the work and identify the **components** that need repair
- P2 note any customer requirements for carrying out the work, such as use of original materials
- P3 handle and examine the item without causing further damage or degradation
- P4 accurately identify any vulnerabilities in the **item of furniture** which will need to be addressed and report these to the relevant person
- P5 use valid and reliable sources of information and expert advice as required to identify and obtain the required materials
- P6 identify and obtain the required **tools and equipment** to carry out the repair

#### Repair removed components

*You must be able to:*

- P7 apply any necessary preservation treatments to the original frame
- P8 accurately cut and shape **components** according to the **work specification**
- P9 accurately position appropriate **components** to provide the structure and shape specified
- P10 fix appropriate **components** and/or upholstery materials securely using the correct fixings for the type of **component**
- P11 check and confirm that the quality is as specified
- P12 deal promptly with any **problems** that occur, and report those that you cannot solve to the appropriate person
- P13 follow safe working procedures at all times
- P14 keep the work area tidy and protect the item from damage while it is being worked on
- P15 complete the process within a required time

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### Knowledge and understanding

#### Asses an item of furniture for repair

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 the factors that should be taken into consideration when assessing an item for furniture for repair
- K2 how to identify the construction methods and materials used in items of furniture from different historical periods and countries of origin
- K3 what steps to take to avoid causing damage and degradation to an item of furniture
- K4 what to look for when assessing how vulnerable the item is to continuing degradation
- K5 why it is helpful to identify the causes of damage and degradation so these can be taken into account when considering repair requirements
- K6 how to identify the signs of common forms of deterioration in items of furniture
- K7 why you should keep a record of your assessment
- K8 how to provide clear information to a customer, what type of information they need, and why it could be important to them
- K9 the source of suitable materials and equipment for conducting repairs

#### Repair removed components

*You need to know and understand:*

- K10 the handling characteristics and functions of the different types of **components**
- K11 the meaning of terms used in technical specifications
- K12 how to measure, cut and fix **components** to give the specified structure and shape
- K13 when to use different methods to secure **components**
- K14 the sorts of **problems** that can occur and how to deal with them to meet the specification
- K15 who to report unsolvable **problems** to
- K16 the functions of the different types of **tools and equipment** that are used in upholstery
- K17 how to handle sharp and powered **tools** safely in ways that protect yourself and other from risk
- K18 the implications of your work of the HASAWA and COSHH Regulations, including where to find out about relevant risk assessment details and risk control strategies that have been set by your organisation
- K19 the health and safety issues that can arise if a work area is disorganised and untidy
- K20 how to dispose of waste in accordance with current legislation

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### Additional Information

#### Scope

##### **Component**

Components include solid, structural components (e.g. a door frame, part of the carcass of a chair) and upholstery components (e.g. fillings, top cover). Components may be fragile in that they can be easily damaged (e.g. certain cloths, antique items) and may need special protective measures to be taken. More robust components may still need careful handling, but do not require any special treatment.

##### **Tools and equipment**

The tools and equipment used for stripping down an item of furniture including a variety of hand tools. Hammers, staplers and staple removers, knives, shears and scalpels, stretching devices. Stripping methods would include either hand methods – solvents/scrap or dipping methods – hot/cold, depending on the item to be stripped.

This also includes preservation and frame treatments eg. for infestation.

##### **Item of furniture**

Any item of furniture, whether modern or traditional, which needs to be stripped down in order for repairs to be made to structural aspects and/or to upholstery.

##### **Work specification**

The set of instructions which describe the work to be carried out, including details of the area of the item to be repaired down, if not the whole item, and any special handling and/or storage instructions specified by the client ordering the work to be done, or the organisation.

##### **Personal Protective Equipment**

The personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by the employer for use in carrying out various activities for which a risk assessment has identified that PPE is needed. These include items of clothing that protect the wearer's eyes, lungs, skin and clothing. They would be particularly necessary when dealing with older furniture, which is made of materials which have deteriorated and/or finishes which might be toxic.

##### **Problems**

In relation to preparatory work, these will be to do with non-functional or missing tools or equipment and/or missing, mismatched, damaged or unsuitable materials and components. The person carrying out this role is responsible for rejecting, replacing or rectifying these sorts of problems, reporting them when they cannot be dealt with quickly, safely and readily.

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**Relevant occupations** Paper and wood machine operatives; Furniture maker and other craft woodworkers; Upholsterers; Labourers build and woodworking trades

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**Suite** Furniture; Furnishings and Interiors

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**Key words** Contemporary Furniture Making; Traditional Furniture Making; Bed Making; Frame Making; Component Manufacture; Veneering; Modern Upholstery; Traditional Upholstery; Soft Furnishing; Cutting; Sewing; Hand Finishing;