CITY & GUILDS NPTC LEVEL 2 AWARD IN THE SAFE USE OF BRUSH-CUTTERS AND TRIMMERS (QCF) QAN 601/1299/2



QUALIFICATION GUIDANCE

Independently Assessed

Essential Qualification Information

Not to be used by the Candidate during Assessment

You will require some of this information to accurately complete the Record of Assessment (ROA)

Qualification Group No	0 0 1 4	Machinery
Qualification Programme No	0 0 1 4 - 2 6	L2 Award in the Safe Use of Brush- cutters and Trimmers
Unit(s)	2 0 1	Trimmer and brushcutter operations
Endorsement(s)	0 0 1	Trimmer
	0 0 2	Brushcutter
Learning Time (LT)	2 0 1	LT 23 (3 Credits) (* see note on page 2)
Recommended Assessment Duration		1.5 – 3 hours per Candidate

City and Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Brush-cutters and Trimmers (QCF) **Qualification Guidance**

Introduction

The scheme will be administered by City & Guilds

City & Guilds will:

Publish - Scheme regulations

- Qualification guidance
- Training material
- Trainers support material

Approve centres to co-ordinate and administer the scheme Set standards for the training of verifiers and assessors Recruit, train and deploy verifiers Manage verification Issue certificates to successful Candidates

The Qualification

The qualification will be awarded to candidates who achieve the required level of competence in the units to which their certificate relates.

What is the Qualifications and Credits Framework?

OFQUAL have introduced the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) to increase flexibility for learners and employers. Qualifications may be built up from individual units according to rules of combination. The units are derived from the National Occupational Standards, which are compiled by Lantra SSC, the Sector Skills Council for the Land-based industries.

Instruction

Attendance at a course of instruction is not a pre-requisite for an application for an assessment but potential Candidates are strongly advised to ensure that they are up to the standards that will be expected of them when they are assessed.

* Learning Time (LT)

Learning Time (LT) is a better indicator of the time requirement needed for a candidate to achieve competence in this qualification. It has replaced Guided Learning Hours (GLH) which are defined as "tutor or teacher led hours". LT is defined as "a notional measure of the learning time a typical learner might be expected to take to complete and achieve all learning outcomes". It takes into account prior learning and encompasses: formal learning (including classes, tutorials, on line tuition), coaching and mentoring, practical work, relevant IT activity, information retrieval, expected private study and revision, work-based activity which leads to assessment, practice to achieve competence, formative assessment, programme planning and feedback.

Access to Assessment

Assessment centres will be responsible for arranging assessment on behalf of the Candidate.

The minimum age limit for Candidates taking Certificates of Competence is 16 years. There is no upper age limit.

The assessment consists of one compulsory unit:

Unit 201	(Mandatory)	(Credit Value 3)

Outcome 1. know how to carry out a risk assessment (Criteria 1.1 - 1.1)

Know the health and safety legislation that underpins trimmer and brushcutter operations (Criteria 2.1 - 2.1) Outcome 2.

Outcome 3. Know the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for trimmer and brushcutter operations (Criteria 3.1 - 3.1)

Know the health and safety features of the equipment being used (Criteria 4.1 - 4.1) Outcome 4.

Know how to maintain the trimmer / brushcutter (Criteria 5.1 - 5.5) Outcome 5. Outcome 6. Know how to operate a trimmer / brushcutter (Criteria 6.1 - 6.2) Outcome 7. Understand different operating techniques (Criteria 7.1 – 7.2)

Outcome 8. Know how to store equipment safely and appropriately (Criteria 8.1 - 8.1)

Candidates must successfully achieve all assessment activities in the above unit.

Endorsement: The assessment may be taken on a machine with any type of cutting mechanism for example:

001 Trimmer 002 Brushcutter

The certificate will be endorsed accordingly. Candidates are encouraged to take their assessment with different cutting mechanisms to broaden their certification.

Only two endorsements can be taken in any one registration.

Verification is a process of monitoring assessment; it is an essential check to confirm that the assessment procedures are being carried out in the way City & Guilds has laid down. The overall aim of verification is to establish a system of quality assurance that is acceptable in terms of both credibility and cost effectiveness.

Approved Assessors will be subject to a regular visit by the verifier at a time when assessments are being undertaken.

A selection of assessment reports completed by the Assessor will be evaluated by a City & Guilds approved verifier.

Compliance with the verification requirements is a pre-requisite for Assessors remaining on the list of approved Assessors.

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Access to Assessment continued...

After assessment has been completed the Qualification Guidance is to be forwarded to the centre and retained by the centre until after the annual centre visit has taken place by a Quality Systems Consultant (QSC).

Performance Evaluation

The result of each assessment activity is evaluated against the following criteria:

- M = Met Meets or exceeds the assessment criteria by displaying a level of practical performance and/or underpinning knowledge. If the Criterion has been MET, a tick ☑ is to be put in the box provided in the bottom right-hand column of each section.
- NM = Not Met Does not satisfy the requirements of the assessment criteria, being unable to perform the practical task satisfactorily or safely or being deficient in underpinning knowledge. If the Criterion is NOT MET, a cross 🗵 is to be put in the box provided in the bottom right-hand column of each section.

Appeals and Equal Opportunities

Centres must have their own auditable, appeals procedures. If a Candidate is not satisfied with the examination conditions or a Candidate feels the opportunity for examination is being denied, the Centre Manager should, in the first instance, address the problem. If, however the problem cannot be resolved, City & Guilds will arbitrate and an external verifier may be approached to offer independent advice. All appeals must be clearly documented by the Centre Manager and made available to the external verifier or City & Guilds if advice is required.

Should occasions arise when centres are not satisfied with any aspect of the external verification process, they should contact Verification Services at City & Guilds.

Access to the qualification is open to all, irrespective of gender, race, creed, age or special needs. Subject to H&S restrictions the Centre Manager should ensure that no learner is subjected to unfair discrimination on any grounds in relation to access to assessment and to the fairness of the assessment. QCA requires City & Guilds to monitor centres to check whether equal opportunities policies are being adhered to.

Validation of Equipment

A Manufacturer's instruction book or other operator's manual should be available for the Candidate to use during the assessment if required.

All equipment being used for this assessment must comply with the relevant requirements of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER) 1998.

Any appropriate item of machinery complying with current legal requirements is acceptable for the assessment, provided it is suitably equipped for all assessment activities to be carried out.

Safe Practice

Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn at all times.

The Assessor must ensure that a site specific risk assessment is carried out.

All equipment must be operated in such a way that the Candidate, Assessor, other persons, or other equipment are not endangered.

Failure to operate safely and comply with these requirements will result in the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

Warning signs stating that an assessment is in progress should be available.

The Assessor may stop the assessment on the grounds of safety at any time at his/her discretion.

Before any assessments take place, Assessor & Candidate should to be aware of any local or national issues to prevent breach of security, safety and any cross contamination or damage to the local environment.

A breach of Health and Safety that puts any person at risk during the assessment process will result in the assessment being terminated and the Candidate not meeting the required standard.

Additional Information

May be sought from the relevant manufacturer's operator manuals or any other appropriate training or safety publication.

Questions should be related to the background or employment aspirations of the candidate.

Candidates who undertake this assessment and have met the requirements are reminded of their legal obligation to receive/undertake appropriate additional training in the use of any equipment that differs from that used during the assessment, but which they are nevertheless qualified to use.

Assessment Guidance for the Assessor

This qualification can only be assessed by an Assessor who is suitably qualified and meets the requirements of the awarding body. The Assessor must be independent and cannot have been involved with the training of the Candidate. Please see City & Guilds Centre Manual for guidance.

The Candidate is to be notified of the place and time of assessment and when formal assessment commences and ceases.

Assessors are reminded that assessment is a formal process and that assessment must be carried out using this Qualification Guidance. All relevant assessment criteria must be assessed against the criterion as specified in the Qualification Guidance. Assessment will be carried out by direct observation and by oral questioning of the Candidate. Where a specific number of responses are required theses may include other suitable answers not specified if they are deemed to be correct by the Assessor. The performance of the Candidate is to be recorded on the Qualification Guidance as directed by completing the tick boxes. Space has been provided on the Qualification Guidance for the person assessing to record relevant information which can be utilised to provide feedback to the Candidate. After assessment has been completed the Qualification Guidance document is to be retained by the assessor and provided if required by a Quality Systems consultant (QSC).

Assessment Guidance for Candidate

A list of registered assessment centres is available from City & Guilds NPTC. (www.nptc.org.uk)

Assessment is a process by which it is confirmed that the candidate is competent in the unit(s) within the award to which the assessment relates. It is the process of collecting evidence about the candidate's capabilities and judging whether that evidence is sufficient to attribute competence.

The Candidate must be registered through the City & Guilds approved assessment centre for this qualification prior to the assessment.

The results of the assessment will be recorded on the Record of Assessment form (ROA).

The qualification guidance contains criteria relating to:

- Observation of practical performance
- Assessment of underpinning knowledge

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City & Guilds is a registered charity established to promote education and training

Candidate	A Name:		Date:	Start Time:	Dura	tion	:			
Candidate	B Name:		Date:	Start Time:	Dura	tion	1:			
	<u> </u>									
Candidate	andidate C Name: Date: Start Time: Duration:									
Candidate	D Name:		Date:	Start Time:	Dura	tion	:			
CRITERIA NUMBER	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	ASSESSOR GUIDANCE	ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES			C/	AND B	DAT C	TE D	
Unit 201 1.1	Carry out a risk assessment relevant to the operation to identify:	Candidate to carry out a ris assessment by checking the site for hazards and report findings to the Assessor Candidate to state three possible risks when operating a brushcutter or trimmer	walk the site an report to the ap condition is uns or confirm that the for the operation set out warning position barriers appropriate) implements with themselves state the emergian incident May include: contact with und flying debris bio hazards machine getting kickback	nd remove or mark hazards propriate person if the site suitable and state why e condition of the site is accep n to take place	f protect					
	Describe the relevant	(Nata Any throng required by	May in alvela the falle	Met√ Not N	Met X					
Unit 201 2.1	Describe the relevant health and safety legislation in relation to trimmer and brushcutter operations	(Note: Any three required became and an outline of the implication on brushcutter/ trimmer operation) (Any implications considered to be valid by the Assessor may be accepted)	The Health & S duties under the The Managemer Regulations 19th carried out for a Personal Protect — PPE must be Manual Handlin avoid manual halfiting technique The Control of 2005 – to reduct Provision and Langulations (Plangular checks Noise at Work Farotection must Countryside and carried out at tir wildlife	afety at Work Act 1974 – spee e act as an employee ent of Health and Safety at W 99 – a risk assessment must all activities ctive Equipment Regulations supplied and worn no Operations Regulations 19 andling where possible, use as the seed of Work Equipment UVER) 1998 – requires that are made Regulations 2005 – hearing to be worn over 85db d Wildlife Act 1981 – operation mes to minimise the impact of Met V Not N	ork be 1992 992 – safe safe ations					
Unit 201 3.1	Select the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for trimmer and brushcutter operations	Candidate to describe PPE required for operation Assessor Note: A mesh visor with additional eye protection is required for brushcutter operations and clear plastic or polycarbona face shield is required for trimmer operation	 handbook or operator hard hat/helmet face/eye protect ear defenders 	ng						

CRITERIA NUMBER	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	ASSESSOR GUIDANCE	ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES	C.	AND B	IDA ⁻	ΓE
	Identify the Health and	The candidate is to identify	May include:	<u> </u>			
Unit 201 4.1	Safety features of the equipment being used	the guarding requirements for the machine being used	all moving/hot parts to be guarded as defined in the operators handbook				
			blade guard (brushcutter) or nylon guard and trimming knife (trimmer)				
		The candidate is required to state the meaning of the	To include:				
		decals on the machine	the operator protection decals				
			bystander protection decals				
		The candidate is to identify	To include all of the following:				
		all the controls on the	on/off switch				
		machine being used	choke				
			Operator Presence Control (OPC)				
			throttle				
			throttle lock				
			primer bulb				
			decompressor (if fitted)				
		The candidate to state three	Safety precautions may include:				
		safety precautions	risk assessment must be carried out before				
			operation of the machine				
			PPE must be worn at all times				
			ensuring the safety of bystanders				
			a minimum safe working distance of 15 metres must be maintained at all times				
			must be maintained at all times				
		The candidate is required to	maximum blade or head rotation speed as				
		state the maximum blade or	identified by manufacturer				
		head operating speed	Met ✓ Not Met X				
	Describe the pre	Candidate to carry out pre-	These may include:				
Unit 201	operational checks that	operational checks to the	inspecting the machine for damage (including the				
5.1	should be made to the trimmer/brushcutter	machine and describe what they are doing to the	blade or nylon head)				
3.1		Assessor	checking that there is sufficient nylon cord (trimmer only)				
			inspecting the machine for loose components and				
			fixings				
			checking the oil level (if applicable)				
			checking the fuel level				
			fuelling the machine (if required)				
		Candidate to state two safety	This may include:				
		precautions that should be	no smoking/naked flames				
		observed with flammable liquids	avoiding contact with hot surfaces				
			fuel topped up to correct level allowing for				
			expansion				
			 any spillage is dealt with using the correct method 				
	I do natife e manualina a	The condidate is negligible	Met ✓ Not Met X	Ш	Ш	Ш	Ш
Unit 201	Identify routine maintenance procedures	The candidate is required to identify routine maintenance	It includes: clean power unit and covers				
	for the trimmer/brushcutter	procedures for the	service the air filter				
5.2		brushcutter/trimmer	service the an inter service the spark plug				
		This criterion will be met in	service the recoil starter mechanism				
		5.3, 5.4 and 5.5 and need	service fuel filter				
		not be assessed separately	check angle drive and gearbox				
			sharpen brushcutter blade				
			and/or				
			remove trimmer head and refit new cord or nylon blades				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
			Mier A MoriMet X		Ш	Ш	Ш

CRITERIA NUMBER	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	ASSESSOR GUIDANCE	ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES	C.	AND B	IDA [*]	TE D
1102	Describe the procedures	The candidate is required to	Power unit and covers:	'		Ŭ	
Unit 201 5.3	for maintaining the engine of the trimmer/brushcutter	carry out the following activities and describe to the assessor what they are doing	inspect for security and damage – damaged equipment should not be used				
		and why these activities are necessary	 external fixings present and secure debris removed from fins/air intake – allows for 				
			cooling of engine exhaust (muffler) is secure and intact – reduce				
			noise and vibration				
		The candidate to state the	Service air filter:				
		purpose of the air filter	air filter prevents debris from entering the carburettor and needs to be clean to maintain correct air/fuel ratio				
			debris removed from around filter prior to removal				
			filter removed (choke closed or protected)				
			filter cleaned or new filter obtained (as appropriate)				
			filter replaced and cover fitted				
		The candidate to state the	Service the spark plug:				
		relevance of the colour of the deposits on the spark plug	if fuel rich – deposits dark brown to black				
		a specific six and speam prog	if fuel weak – deposits light brown to white				
			engine cover and spark plug removed plug cleaned appropriately				
			wear/damage assessed (replaced if necessary)				
			or gap size checked and set if necessary				
			gap size checked and set if necessary				
		The candidate to assess the recoil mechanism and comment on tension and	Service starter recoil mechanism: when the spring is slack the cord does not fully	_			
		condition of cord	retract over tight spring binds the cord before it can be				
			 fully extended recognise wear points; at base of toggle and where attached to pulley 				
			starter cover removed and ventilation slots cleaned				
			cord inspected for wear				
			cord and coil spring released and re-tensioned				
		The candidate is required only to state how to service	Fuel filter (candidate required only to state how to service the fuel filter):				
		the fuel filter	fuel cap to be removed				
			filter to be located and removed from tank using an appropriate tool				
			condition of the filter determined, replacement if necessary				
			cleaning procedures include using non flammable detergents followed by rinsing				
			and drying				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
Unit 201	Describe the procedures for maintaining the cutting heads	The candidate is required to carry out the following activities and describe to the					
5.4		assessor what they are doing and why these activities are necessary					
		Check angle drive and	Angle drive and gearbox:				
		gearbox	access plug removed				
Continued			lubricant checked				
Continued			Iubricant topped up (if appropriate)				

CRITERIA NUMBER	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	ASSESSOR GUIDANCE	ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES	C.	AND B	IDA ⁻	TE D
HOMBER	OKITEKIA	Sharpen brushcutter blade	Sharpen brushcutter blade:	<u> </u>	В	٥	<u> </u>
Cont		(secured in vice or clamped	gloves worn when handling brushcutter blade				
		to bench)	remove blade guard				
Unit 201			secure blade using appropriate method (locking)				
5.4			pin, spanner etc) loosen and remove retaining nut (L/H thread)				
			remove blade assembly				
			check the blade for length				
			check the blade for damage				
			 secure the blade for filing (any acceptable method used) 				
			blade sharpened correctly (blade template used if appropriate)				
			blade balance checked				
			blade re-checked for cracks/damage				
			drive shaft and collar cleaned				
		and/or	blade re-fitted, washer and lock replaced securely				
		Remove trimmer head and refit new cord or nylon blades	Remove trimmer head and refit new cord or nylon blades:				
		(as appropriate)	secure nylon head using an appropriate method				
			remove retaining nut				
			Remove casing and comment on the condition of:				
			• casing				
			• ferrules				
			retaining nut				
			=				
			check cord or blades for damage				
			 refit existing or new cord or blades (as appropriate) 				
			refit nylon head				
			refit washer and nut and secure appropriately		Ш		
			nylon trimmed to recommended length				
	Describe the mass dame.	Condidate to describe how	Met ✓ Not Met X	Ш	Ш	Ш	Ш
Unit 201	Describe the procedures for making adjustments to	Candidate to describe how to make adjustments to the	May include:	l _			l
Onit 201	the trimmer/brushcutter	engine of a brushcutter or	adjusting the engine idling screw (if applicable)				
5.5	the thinner, brachedter	trimmer	adjusting the fuel mixture (if applicable)				
		Candidate to demonstrate	To include:				
		other adjustments that can be	handle bar adjustment as necessary				
		made to the machine	moving/adjusting harness connection point				
		Candidate is required to	To include:				
		demonstrate how to adjust the harness correctly	length of shoulder straps				
		the namess correctly	length of side straps				
			position of chest plate				
			position of hip guard				
			correct working height and balance achieved				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
	Carry out pre-cutting tests	Candidate to carry out a	To include:			Ш	Ш
Unit 201	Carry out pro outling tosts	pre-cutting test	remove and retain guard (brushcutter)				
6.1			correct starting procedure for the machine (on the ground).				
			ground) start machine, check controls are fully operational				
			1				
			ensure blade or head is stationary at idling speed section advanced using any left avoidable.				
			machine stopped using on/off switch				
			Met ✓ Not Met X	Ш	Ш	Ш	Ш

CRITERIA NUMBER	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	ASSESSOR GUIDANCE	ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES	C A	AND B	IDA [*]	TE D
HOMBEN	Prepare the site to be cut	Candidate to state three	May include:	A	-		٦
Unit 201		precautions to be considered when working in areas to	authorities informed about the work prior to commencement				
6.2		which the public has pedestrian or vehicular	warning signs erected				
		access	high visibility clothing worn				
			an 'exclusion zone' could be set up				
			road or dual carriageway lane closed or coned off				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
Unit 201	Describe the different operating techniques for	Candidate to describe the different techniques for	To include:				
Onit 201	grassland and scrub	grassland and scrub	scything technique				
7.1			swatting technique (brushcutter)				
			direction of working to avoid clogging blade/head				
			Met ✓ Not Met X	Ш	Ш	Ш	Ш
Unit 201	Use appropriate operating techniques for the site	Area to be cut approximately 30m ²	To include: • safe working distance maintained at all times				
	being cut		safe working distance maintained at all times plan work efficiently				
7.2		Candidate to operate the brushcutter demonstrating	blade speed appropriate whist cutting				
		both the scything method	use legs and hips to work machine				
		and swatting method	cut vegetation using scything action				
			cut vegetation using swatting method				
			clear jammed blade safely (if occurs)				
		or	vegetation cleared to specification				
			To to dealer				
		Candidate to operate the trimmer using the scything	To include:				
		method cutting around three	safe working distance maintained at all times				
		obstacles without causing	plan work efficiently				
		damage. The obstacles can be e.g. trees, shrubs, picnic	 nylon cutting cord/blade speed appropriate whist cutting 				
		tables or fence posts	use legs and hips to work machine				
		·	cut vegetation using scything action				
			renew or replace nylon cord/blade as appropriate				
			clear jammed head safely (if occur)				
			damage to obstacles avoided				
			vegetation cleared to specification				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
11-1: 004	Store equipment	Candidate is to state two	May include, to:				
Unit 201	appropriately and in accordance with	advantages of regularly cleaning the machine after	prevent corrosion				
8.1	manufacturer's guidelines	use	facilitate maintenance and adjustments				
			prevent personal contamination				
		Candidate to state two	May include:				
		factors to consider when	using appropriate PPE				
		cleaning the machine	 removing unwanted residues using an appropriate method, which may include: 				
			compressed air				
			hose and water				
			brush				
			waste disposed in line with company policy, environmental good practice and any legislative requirements				
		Candidate to state one	May include:			_	_
		reason for inspecting the	machine inspected to establish if there are any				
		machine after use	missing, damaged or worn components				
			ensures that defects can be rectified before machine is required again for use				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
		1	Met , Mot Met X	Ш	Ш	Ш	ഥ

Summary of Assessmer	t (The)	Assessor	is to	complete	the	followina a	as appror	oriate)
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Candidate A	Candidate has met all of the assessment criteria	Tick ✓	The Candidate has not met all of the assessment criteria; (state reason(s))	Tick ✓					
	Signed: D	ate:							
Candidate B	Candidate has met all of the assessment criteria	Tick ✓	The Candidate has not met all of the assessment criteria; (state reason(s))	Tick ✓					
	Signed: D	ate:							
Candidate C	Candidate has met all of the assessment criteria	Tick ✓	The Candidate has not met all of the assessment criteria; (state reason(s))	Tick ✓					
	Signed: D	ate:							
Candidate D	Candidate has met all of the assessment criteria	Tick ✓	The Candidate has not met all of the assessment criteria; (state reason(s))	Tick ✓					
	Signed:	Date:							
For (Int	For use by Internal Verifier ONLY if the assessment process was internally verified (Internal Verifier to complete ONE of the boxes below)								
I ob and	I observed an assessment process taking place and I am satisfied that the assessment was conducted in line with the qualification requirements and that the judgement of the Assessor was appropriate.								
I ob	I observed an assessment process taking place. The following were noted as areas of concern. Tive								
_									