CITY & GUILDS NPTC LEVEL 2 AWARD IN THE SAFE USE OF BRUSH-CUTTERS AND TRIMMERS 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 0 0 2	Trimmer Brushcutter
Guided Learning Hours	2 0 1	GLH 23 (Credit Value 3)
Total Qualification Time		30 Hours
Recommended Assessment Duration		1.5 – 3 hours per Candidate

Version and date	Change detail	Section
1.2 November 2017	Added TQT details Deleted QCF	Qualification at a glance, Structure
		Throughout

City and Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Brush-cutters and Trimmers 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.

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.

Total Qualification Time

Total Qualification Time (TQT) is the total amount of time, in hours, expected to be spent by a Learner to achieve a qualification. It includes both guided learning hours (which are listed separately) and hours spent in preparation, study and assessment.

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 a	ssessment (Criteria 1.1 – 1.1)
	Outcome 2.	Know the health and safety le	gislation that underpins trimmer and brushcutter operations (Criteria 2.1 – 2.1)
	Outcome 3.	Know the appropriate Persona	al Protective Equipment (PPE) for trimmer and brushcutter operations (Criteria 3.1 – 3.1)
	Outcome 4.	Know the health and safety fe	atures of the equipment being used (Criteria 4.1 – 4.1)
	Outcome 5.	Know how to maintain the trim	mer / brushcutter (Criteria 5.1 – 5.5)
	Outcome 6.	Know how to operate a trimme	er / 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.

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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Candidate	• A	Name:		Dat	e:	Start Time:	Dura	ation):		
Candidate B Name:		Date:		Start Time:	Duration:						
Candidate	C	Name:		Dat	e:	Start Time:	Duration:				
Candidate	D	Name:		Dat	e:	Start Time:	Dura	tion	1:		
CRITERIA		ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	ASSESSOR			SSESSMENT			AND		
Unit 201 1.1	asses	y out a risk ssment relevant to the attion to identify: significant hazards those at risk control measures emergency procedures	Candidate to carry out a ri assessment by checking the site for hazards and report findings to the Assessor Candidate to state three possible risks when operate a brushcutter or trimmer	ne	Candidate is required walk the site and report to the app condition is unsulor confirm that the offer the operation set out warning set on the set out warning set on the set out warning set out warning set on the set out warning set on the set out warning set out of the set out of	I remove or mark hazards propriate person if the site uitable and state why condition of the site is accepto take place	f protect		B	c	b
	Desc	cribe the relevant	(Note: Any three required l	hv	May include the follow	Met✓ Not I	Met X				
Unit 201 2.1	healt legisl trimm	h and safety lation in relation to ner and brushcutter ations	name and an outline of the implication on brushcutter/trimmer operation) (Any implications considered to be valid by the Assessor may be accepted)		 The Health & Sa duties under the The Managemer Regulations 1990 carried out for all Personal Protect – PPE must be so Manual Handling avoid manual har lifting techniques The Control of V 2005 – to reduce Provision and Us Regulations (PU regular checks a 	fety at Work Act 1974 – special act as an employee act as an employee at of Health and Safety at W9 – a risk assessment must activities tive Equipment Regulations supplied and worn g Operations Regulations 19 andling where possible, use a libration at Work Regulation at the risk to health from vibrate of Work Equipment WER) 1998 – requires that	ork be 1992 992 – safe				
					 Protection must be Countryside and carried out at time 	be worn over 85db Wildlife Act 1981 – operations to minimise the impact of					
					wildlife	Met ✓ Not I	Met X				
Unit 201 3.1	Perso Equip trimm	ct the appropriate onal Protective pment (PPE) for ner and brushcutter ations	Candidate to describe PPI 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	la		on					

CRITERIA NUMBER	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	ASSESSOR GUIDANCE	ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES	C.	AND B	IDAT	TE D
	Identify the Health and	The candidate is to identify	May include:				
Unit 201	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				
4.1	equipment being docu	the machine being about	the operators handbook blade guard (brushcutter)				
			or				
			nylon guard and trimming knife (trimmer)				
		The candidate is required to	To include:				
		state the meaning of the	the operator protection decals				
		decals on the machine	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 head operating speed	identified by manufacturer				
		nead operating speed	Met ✓ Not Met X				
	Describe the pre	Candidate to carry out pre-	These may include:				
Unit 201	operational checks that should be made to the	operational checks to the machine and describe what	inspecting the machine for damage (including the				
5.1	trimmer/brushcutter	they are doing to the	blade or nylon head) checking that there is sufficient nylon cord				
		Assessor	(trimmer only)				
			inspecting the machine for loose components and				
			fixings				
			checking the oil level (if applicable)				
			checking the fuel level fuelling the greathing (if required)				
			fuelling the machine (if required)				
		Candidate to state two safety	This may include:				
		precautions that should be observed with flammable	no smoking/naked flames				
		liquids	avoiding contact with hot surfaces				
			fuel topped up to correct level allowing for expansion				
			any spillage is dealt with using the correct				
			method				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
	Identify routine	The candidate is required to	It includes:				
Unit 201	maintenance procedures for the trimmer/brushcutter	identify routine maintenance procedures for the	clean power unit and covers				
5.2		brushcutter/trimmer	service the air filter				
		This criterion will be met in	service the spark plug				
		This criterion will be met in 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5 and need	service the recoil starter mechanism service fuel filter				
		not be assessed separately	service fuel filter check angle drive and gearbox				
			sharpen brushcutter blade				
			and/or				
			remove trimmer head and refit new cord or nylon blades				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
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CRITERIA NUMBER	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	ASSESSOR GUIDANCE	ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES	C.	AND B	IDA.	TE D
	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				
0.0		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 purpose of the air filter	Service air filter:				
		purpose of the all 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				
			if fuel weak – deposits light brown to white engine cover and spark plug removed				
			 plug cleaned appropriately 				
			wear/damage assessed (replaced if necessary)				
			gap size checked and set if necessary				
		The candidate to assess the	Service starter recoil mechanism:				
		recoil mechanism and comment on tension and	when the spring is slack the cord does not fully retract				
		condition of cord	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 the fuel filter	Fuel filter (candidate required only to state how to service the fuel filter):				
		the fuer litter	fuel cap to be removed City to be be added and account for a deal and a deal account for a deal accoun				
			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	ASSESSMENT	ASSESSOR	ASSESSMENT		AND		
NUMBER	CRITERIA	Sharpen brushoutter blade	ACTIVITIES Sharpen brushcutter blade:	Α	В	С	D
Cont		Sharpen brushcutter blade (secured in vice or clamped	· ·				
		to bench)	9				
Unit 201			remove blade guard secure blade using appropriate method (locking)				
5.4			pin, spanner etc)				
3.4			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 hydrifiead refit washer and nut and secure appropriately 				
			nylon trimmed to recommended length				
			Met ✓ Not Met X	Ш	Ш	Ш	Ш
Unit 201	Describe the procedures	Candidate to describe how	May include:				
Unit 201	for making adjustments to the trimmer/brushcutter	to make adjustments to the engine of a brushcutter or	adjusting the engine idling screw (if applicable)				
5.5	the thinnel/bracheatter	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				
			morning adjacting names commence point				
		Candidate is required to	To include:				
		demonstrate how to adjust the harness correctly	length of shoulder straps				
		list names contonly	length of side straps				
			position of chest plate				
			position of hip guard				
			correct working height and balance achieved				
			Met ✓ Not Met X	Ш		Ш	Ш
	Carry out pre-cutting tests	Candidate to carry out a	To include:				
Unit 201		pre-cutting test	remove and retain guard (brushcutter)				
6.1			correct starting procedure for the machine (on the	_	l	_	_
5. 1			ground)				
			start machine, check controls are fully operational				
			ensure blade or head is stationary at idling speed				
			machine stopped using on/off switch				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
	l	1					二

CRITERIA	ASSESSMENT	ASSESSOR	ASSESSMENT	_	AND		
NUMBER	CRITERIA Prepare the site to be cut	GUIDANCE Candidate to state three	ACTIVITIES May include:	Α	В	С	D
Unit 201	Frepare the site to be cut	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: scything technique				
	grassland and scrub	grassland and scrub	 swatting technique (brushcutter) 				
7.1			direction of working to avoid clogging blade/head				
			Met ✓ Not Met X				
	Use appropriate operating	Area to be cut	To include:				Н
Unit 201	techniques for the site	approximately 30m ²	safe working distance maintained at all times				
7.0	being cut	Condidate to energia the	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				
		Candidate to operate the	To include:				
		trimmer using the scything	safe working distance maintained at all times				
		method cutting around three	plan work efficiently				
		obstacles without causing damage. The obstacles can	nylon cutting cord/blade speed appropriate whist				
		be e.g. trees, shrubs, picnic	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				
			damage to obstacles avoidedvegetation cleared to specification				
			Met ✓ Not Met X	Ш		Ш	Ш
Unit 201	Store equipment appropriately and in	Candidate is to state two advantages of regularly	May include, to:				
O 201	accordance with	cleaning the machine after	prevent corrosion facilitate maintenance and adjustments				
8.1	manufacturer's guidelines	use	 facilitate maintenance and adjustments prevent personal contamination 				
		Candidate to state two	May include:				
		factors to consider when cleaning the machine	using appropriate PPE				
			 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 after use	machine inspected to establish if there are any				
			 missing, damaged or worn components ensures that defects can be rectified before 				
			machine is required again for use Met ✓ Not Met X				
			Wet ≠ Not Met X	Ш		Ш	Ш

Summary of Assessr	nent (The A	Assessor is t	o complete i	the following	ı as appropriate)
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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	ruse by Internal Verifier ONLY if the assessment process was internal Verifier to complete ONE of the boxes below)	nternally	v verified					
I ob and	oserved an assessment process taking place and I am satisfied that the judgement of the Assessor was appropriate.	at the a	ssessment was conducted in line with the qualification requirements	Tick ✓				
I ob	I observed an assessment process taking place. The following were noted as areas of concern.							
	Signed: Date:							