

Title:	Maintaining Tools and Equipment
Level:	Entry Level 3
Credit value:	2
GLH:	20
Unique Reference Number:	D/652/0013
Sector Subject Area:	14.1 Foundations for Learning and Life
Aim:	The aim of this unit is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to maintain horticultural tools and equipment safely and responsibly. Learners will understand why tools must be cleaned, stored, and checked regularly, and will carry out basic maintenance tasks under supervision. This unit supports progression into practical horticulture roles by developing responsibility for equipment care and safe working routines.
Assessment Type:	Assessment of this unit will be through an internally set and internally assessed portfolio of evidence.
Assessment Guidance:	<p>Assessment decisions for skills-based learning outcomes must be made during the learner's normal work activity.</p> <p>Skills-based assessment must include direct observation as the main source of evidence and must be carried out over an appropriate period of time.</p> <p>Evidence must confirm that the learner can carry out basic tool maintenance, identify simple signs of damage, store tools appropriately, and follow safe equipment routines under supervision.</p> <p>Assessment must reflect realistic horticultural contexts.</p>

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Understand why tools and equipment must be maintained.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to understand the importance of keeping tools and equipment clean, safe, and ready for use. Learners should explore how poor maintenance can affect safety and task quality.

The learner must:

- 1.1 Identify reasons for maintaining **tools and equipment**.

<p>1.2 State what may happen if tools are not maintained.</p> <p>1.3 Recognise the importance of safe equipment routines.</p>
<p>2. Be able to clean tools after use.</p> <p>Delivery content:</p> <p>The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to clean tools safely and appropriately after completing tasks.</p> <p>The learner must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Remove soil or debris from tools. 2.2 Clean tools using appropriate methods. 2.3 Leave tools ready for storage.
<p>3. Be able to check tools and equipment.</p> <p>Delivery content:</p> <p>The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to carry out simple checks on tools and equipment before and after use.</p> <p>The learner must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Identify simple signs of damage. 3.2 Report damaged tools appropriately. 3.3 Check tools are safe before use.
<p>4. Be able to store tools and equipment safely.</p> <p>Delivery content:</p> <p>The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to store tools safely and correctly after use.</p> <p>The learner must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1 Store tools in the correct location. 4.2 Keep storage areas tidy. 4.3 Follow safe equipment routines when storing tools.

Scope of Training

The Scope of Training identifies areas that must be covered during the delivery of this unit. This is the minimum that is expected but tutors are expected to include other areas,

<p>knowledge of which will benefit their learners, based on location, types of work available and from the tutors own professional experience.</p>	
<p>Requirements</p>	
<p>Tools and equipment:</p>	<p>Definition: Manual horticultural tools and simple equipment used in planting and maintenance tasks.</p> <p>Teaching must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to maintain tools and equipment, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trowel, hand fork, small rake. ○ Watering can. ○ Storage racks or tool areas. <p>Teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining tools and equipment, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Secateurs (under supervision). ○ Gloves. ○ Basic cleaning materials.
<p>Safe equipment routines:</p>	<p>Definition: Simple procedures that ensure tools are safe, clean, and ready for use.</p> <p>Teaching must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning tools after use. • Returning tools to designated storage. • Reporting faults to a supervisor. <p>Teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking tools before use. • Working in shared tool areas. • Responsibility for allocated tools.
<p>Signs of damage:</p>	<p>Definition: Visible indicators that a tool may be unsafe or unsuitable for use.</p> <p>Teaching must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicators including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Loose handles. ○ Cracked or broken parts. ○ Excessive rust or damage.

	<p>Teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Indicators such as:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Blunt edges.○ Bent components.○ Missing parts.
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