

Title:	Plant Pruning
Level:	1
Credit value:	1
GLH:	9
Unique Reference Number:	R/505/0601
Sector Subject Area:	3.2 Horticulture and Forestry
Aim:	The aim of this unit is to provide learners with the skills and knowledge to be able to understand the basics of plant pruning.
Assessment Type:	Assessment of this unit will be through the completion of a mandatory internally set and internally assessed portfolio of evidence.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Understand the reasons for pruning plants.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to understand the reasons for pruning plants.

The learner must:

- 1.1 State **what is meant by pruning.**
- 1.2 Describe three **reasons why pruning is carried out.**
- 1.3 Identify six **plants which are usually pruned.**
- 1.4 Understand when their pruning should usually take place.
- 1.5 Give **examples of problems which may occur if plants are not pruned according to their requirements.**

2. Understand how to prune for maintenance and shaping.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to understand how to prune for maintenance and shaping.

The learner must:

<p>2.1 Understand how to identify a node.</p> <p>2.2 Explain pruning techniques suited to the following purposes for at least three plants for each.</p> <p>a) Plant maintenance.</p> <p>b) Shaping plants.</p>

Scope of Training	
<p>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, knowledge of which will benefit their learners, based on location, types of work available and from the tutors own professional experience.</p>	
Requirements	
1.1 What is meant by pruning.	Pruning is the selective removal of plant parts, such as branches, buds, or roots, to promote healthy growth, improve shape, and enhance fruiting or flowering.
1.2 Reasons why pruning is carried out.	<p>Could include, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To control growth. • Improve plant shape. • Encourage flowering and fruiting. • Remove dead or diseased plants. • Enhance light penetration and air circulation.
1.3 Plants which are usually pruned.	<p>Could include but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fruit trees. • Hedges. • Grapevines. • Shrubs. • Ornamental trees.
1.5 Examples of problems which may occur if plants are not pruned according to their requirements.	<p>Could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overcrowded growth. • Poor air circulation. • Increased risk of disease and pests. • Weak or leggy stems. • Reduced flowering or fruiting. • Uncontrolled size or shape.
2.1 Node.	A node is the point on a plant stem where leaves, branches, or buds grow. It is essential for plant growth, as new shoots and roots can emerge from nodes.
2.2 Pruning techniques.	<p>Should include but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pinching.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deadheading.• Thinning.• Heading back.• Crown reduction.• Pollarding.
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