

Title:	Using and Maintaining Horticultural Tools
Level:	Level 1
Credit value:	2
GLH:	18
Unique Reference Number:	K/652/0080
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 use and maintain horticultural tools safely and effectively. Learners will understand tool selection, demonstrate correct handling techniques, and carry out routine maintenance tasks with limited supervision. This unit supports progression into horticultural roles by developing competence in equipment use, care, and responsible working practice across a range of planted environments.
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 explain appropriate tool selection, demonstrate safe tool handling techniques, carry out basic tool maintenance, and apply safe working practices with limited supervision.</p> <p>Assessment must reflect realistic horticultural contexts.</p>

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Understand tool selection and purpose.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to select appropriate horticultural tools for specific tasks.

The learner must:

- 1.1 Explain the purpose of common horticultural tools.
- 1.2 Identify appropriate **tool selection** for given tasks.

1.3 Describe risks associated with incorrect tool use.
2. Demonstrate safe tool handling techniques.
<p>Delivery content:</p> <p>The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to handle and operate horticultural tools safely and effectively.</p> <p>The learner must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Demonstrate correct tool handling techniques. 2.2 Demonstrate maintaining control of tools during use. 2.3 Demonstrate safe positioning of tools when not in use.
3. Demonstrate routine tool maintenance.
<p>Delivery content:</p> <p>The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to carry out cleaning, checking, and storage of horticultural tools.</p> <p>The learner must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Demonstrate basic tool maintenance procedures. 3.2 Identify signs of wear or damage. 3.3 Report damaged tools appropriately.
4. Demonstrate safe and responsible working when using tools.
<p>Delivery content:</p> <p>The aim of this learning outcome is to provide learners with the knowledge and skills to apply safe procedures specifically when preparing, using, and completing tasks with horticultural tools.</p> <p>The learner must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1 Demonstrate carrying out pre-use tool safety checks. 4.2 Demonstrate maintaining safe distances from others while using tools. 4.3 Demonstrate safe completion procedures after tool use.

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>Tool selection:</p>	<p>Definition: Choosing the correct tool for a specific horticultural task.</p> <p>Teaching must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matching tools to tasks. • Understanding purpose of common tools. • Considering safety when selecting tools. <p>Teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparing tool suitability. • Selecting tools based on soil type. • Considering environmental conditions.
<p>Tool handling techniques:</p>	<p>Definition: Safe and effective methods of holding, using, and positioning horticultural tools.</p> <p>Teaching must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct grip. • Controlled movement. • Safe passing or placing of tools. <p>Teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working in shared spaces. • Awareness of others nearby. • Avoiding overexertion.
<p>Tool maintenance:</p>	<p>Definition: Routine care carried out to ensure tools remain safe and effective.</p> <p>Teaching must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning after use. • Checking for damage. • Safe storage. <p>Teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying blunt edges. • Recognising loose handles. • Simple preventative care.

<p>Tool safety checks:</p>	<p>Definition: Simple inspections carried out before using a tool to ensure it is safe.</p> <p>Teaching must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking handles are secure. • Checking for visible cracks or damage. • Ensuring tools are clean and suitable for use. <p>Teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking sharp edges are protected when not in use. • Reporting faults before starting work. • Comparing safe and unsafe examples.
<p>Safe completion procedures:</p>	<p>Definition: Actions taken after finishing a task to ensure tools are left safely.</p> <p>Teaching must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning tools after use. • Returning tools to correct storage. • Informing supervisor of any issues. <p>Teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recording tool use if required. • Checking area for dropped tools. • Ensuring tools are not left unattended.