



**Australian Government**

**Assessment Requirements for  
FWPCOT3271 Hand sharpen knives and  
blades for commercial and domestic cutting  
services**

**Release: 1**

# Assessment Requirements for FWPCOT3271 Hand sharpen knives and blades for commercial and domestic cutting services

## Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with FWP Forest and Wood Products Training Package Version 5.0.

## Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that, on at least one occasion, the individual has:

- followed work order and relevant workplace health and safety and environmental protection procedures
- prepared for hand sharpening of knives or blades
- safely and effectively hand sharpened knives or blades using powered and manual sharpening equipment
- removed and replaced knives or blades from designated machinery
- recorded and reported workplace activity.

## Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- regulations, standards, codes of practice and established safe practices for hand sharpening knives and blades
- geometry of knives and blades, including the pitch and angle that a knife or blade is sharpened at, allowing for the device that the knife or blade is in and the material to be cut
- defects in the cutting edges of knives and blades:
  - burrs
  - burns
  - chips
  - splits
  - dents
- characteristics of different types of metal knives and blades:
  - drill bits
  - hand chainsaw

- clipper blades
- gardening tools
- scissors
- wood chisels
- mincer blades
- shears
- other cutting equipment types with knives or blades
- sharpening methods and geometry:
  - pitch
  - depth of cut
  - speed the knife or blade is sharpened at to obtain a sharp edge
- basic knowledge of physics of knives or blades, including:
  - blade material and properties
  - impact of material-to-be-cut properties on knives or blades
  - direction of cut
  - forces on a knife or blade
  - heat removal when relevant
  - knife or blade configuration
- types, safe use and maintenance of manual sharpening equipment:
  - power-driven sharpening equipment with procedures for safe use and lock-out
  - files (round, triangular, square and flat)
  - honing tools
  - saw sets
- risks and hazards associated with hand sharpening knives and blades
- workplace procedures for hand sharpening knives and blades:
  - workplace health and safety with particular emphasis on equipment lock-out, use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and safe manual handling techniques
  - recording and reporting production outcomes and equipment faults
  - communication channels and protocols
- environmental protection requirements, including the safe disposal of waste material and the cleaning of plant, tools and equipment.

## Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
  - skills must be demonstrated in a saw technician workshop, a sawmill facility or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
  - PPE suitable for hand sharpening knives and blades

- equipment from which knives and blades are to be removed for inspection and sharpening
- knives and blades to be hand sharpened
- power-driven sharpening equipment with procedures for safe use and lock-out
- files (round, triangular, square and flat)
- honing tools
- saw sets
- specifications:
  - manufacturer instructions for use, repair and maintenance of equipment
  - work order with specific instructions for hand sharpening knives and blades
  - workplace procedures for sharpening knives and blades.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

## **Links**

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -  
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=0d96fe23-5747-4c01-9d6f-3509ff8d3d47>