



Australian Government

MSFFF3017 Apply traditional French polishing techniques

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release 1. Changes to code, application, elements, performance criteria, assessment requirements. Foundation skills added. Range of conditions removed. Assessment requirements changed.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to use traditional French polishing techniques to apply shellac polish to solid timber or veneered manufactured board surfaces by hand.

Furniture finishing workers with this competency follow established procedures, using discretion, judgement and problem-solving to identify and resolve potential issues. They recognise dependencies and use cooperative approaches to optimise workflow and productivity.

No licensing or certification requirements exist at the time of publication. Relevant legislation, industry standards and codes of practice within Australia must be applied.

Competency Field

Furniture finishing

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
1. Plan and prepare for task	1.1 Determine task requirements from work documentation, including drawings, specifications and instructions 1.2 Recognise and adhere to quality assurance requirements in accordance with workplace procedures 1.3 Identify and follow work health and safety requirements 1.4 Select tools and equipment consistent with job requirements and work instructions, check for safety and serviceability, and report any faults to supervisor 1.5 Prepare skinning in, bodying up and spiriting out/stiffening up rubbers to meet work requirements

2. Prepare for application of polish	2.1 Check surfaces for contamination and correct preparation in accordance with workplace procedures and standards 2.2 Identify and report or repair products with surface or other faults in accordance with workplace procedures 2.3 Identify and apply techniques for applying polish by hand using traditional methods in accordance with workplace procedures 2.4 Prepare materials and equipment suitable for skinning in, bodying up and spiriting out/stiffening up operations to meet requirements 2.5 Stain, fill in and seal surfaces with polish using a mop brush, blender or swooge to meet requirements
3. Skin in job surface	3.1 Lightly sand surface and check for and rectify defects in accordance with workplace procedures 3.2 Charge skinning-in rubber with polish, showing consideration for job colour and clarity in accordance with quality standards 3.3 Skin in surface, covering small areas at a time, using correct amount of pressure and suitable rubber movements 3.4 Apply required pumice powder in accordance with workplace procedures 3.5 Inspect skinned-in surface and repair any defects using suitable materials
4. Body up a skinned in surface	4.1 Use polish, lubricating oil and pumice powder to body up the skinned-in surface, using correct amount of pressure and suitable rubber movements 4.2 Continuously monitor rubber and job surface to evaluate their condition 4.3 Recharge body-up rubber and apply required lubricating oil and pumice to ensure surface faults and blemishes do not develop 4.4 Ensure bodied-up surface is full and flat with an even sheen and shows no blemishes in accordance with quality requirements
5. Spirit off/stiffen up surface	5.1 Use correctly charged rubber, correct amount of pressure and suitable rubber movements to stiffen up/spirit off surface in accordance with requirements 5.2 Ensure stiffened up/spirited off surface is free of oil, full, flat with an even sheen and shows no blemishes or rubber marks

6. Clean up work area	6.1 Check, clean and store tools and equipment and any unused materials in accordance with workplace procedures 6.2 Store rubbers separately in airtight glass or plastic containers in accordance with workplace procedures 6.3 Tag unserviceable equipment, identify faults and inform appropriate personnel in accordance with workplace procedures 6.4 Clean work area, safely dispose of waste and identify items for recycling in accordance with workplace procedures and environmental standards 6.5 Complete required workplace records
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Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance but not explicit in the performance criteria.

- Reading skills to interpret familiar workplace procedures and work documentation
- Writing skills to communicate information in familiar workplace documents
- Numeracy skills to measure and calculate area and estimate material requirements.

Other foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit.

Unit Mapping Information

Release 1. Supersedes and is equivalent to MSFFF3008 Apply traditional French polishing techniques.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet –

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=0601ab95-583a-4e93-b2d4-cfb27b03ed73>

Assessment Requirements for MSFFF3017 Apply traditional French polishing techniques

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Performance Evidence

There must be evidence the candidate has completed all the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit, and demonstrated the ability to:

- • apply traditional French polishing to 3 surfaces, including:
 - a flat surface
 - a curved surface
 - an enclosed panel.
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Knowledge Evidence

There must be evidence the candidate has knowledge of:

- workplace and equipment safety requirements
- construction techniques of rubbers
- safe handling of materials associated with traditional French polishing, including:
 - lac
 - polishes
 - paraffin and linseed oils
 - methylated spirits
- shellac mixing procedures
- repair techniques for defects in timber surfaces and polish film
- appropriate rubber charging and movements for each stage of French polishing
- storage requirements for lac products and rubbers
- common types of polish, including:
 - shellac
 - button lac
 - de-waxed lac
 - de-waxed/de-coloured lac
 - white or bleached lac
- common types of lubricating oil, including:
 - paraffin

- linseed
- typical surface faults and remediation, including at least 4 of the following:
 - machine marks
 - bruising
 - pencil marks
 - grease
 - cross-sanding marks
 - scratches
 - glue marks
 - dirt marks
 - insect and termite holes
 - holes
 - knots
 - blisters
 - rubber marks
 - burns or tears
 - ropiness and foreign matter in the polish
- typical tools and methods used in French polishing, including at least 4 of the following:
 - filler blades
 - brushes
 - abrasive papers
 - skinning in
 - bodying up and spiriting out rubbers
 - mop brush
 - blender
 - swooge and scrapers
- personal protective equipment (PPE) used in French polishing
- sources of workplace information, including:
 - work instructions
 - workplace procedures relating to reporting and communication
 - manufacturer specifications and operational procedures.
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Assessment Conditions

Skills must have been demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions and contingencies. The following conditions must be met for this unit:

- use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources, including:
 - work orders

- French polishing tools and equipment and cleaning materials required for performance evidence
- PPE
- timber components/furnishings requiring polish
- workplace procedures, manufacturing specifications, codes, standards, manuals, and reference materials.

Assessors must satisfy the NVR/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors.

Links

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