



Fashion and Textile Technology

Practical activity benchmarks

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Fashion and Textile Technology - Practical activity benchmarks

As part of the National 5–Higher Fashion and Textile Technology Coursework Assessment Task, the practical activity plays a significant part in the marks awarded for the course. Within this document, several benchmark examples are provided with mark allocations demonstrated.

The assignment and practical activity task is worth 100 marks and within this, 36 marks are available at National 5, and 40 marks are available at Higher for making the fashion/textile item.

Stage 2: Making the (detailed/complex fashion) textile item

Candidates can gain marks for each of the **eight construction techniques** they have chosen to demonstrate for assessment.

Marks for each construction technique should be awarded holistically, taking into consideration all the criteria which would apply to the technique, up to the maximum mark available for that technique.

Teachers and lecturers should use professional judgement when considering how accurately each construction technique is completed. This should be in line with the mark allocation shown in the 'quality of construction techniques' table, and in relation to the 'construction techniques marking tariff'.

Marks for each technique should be allocated in descending order, ie the construction techniques which carry the highest tariffs first, followed by the construction techniques which carry the next highest tariff and so on until the total marks available have been reached. For further details on the marking of the item please visit www.sqasecure.co.uk where more information can be found within the coursework assessment task document.

Marks are awarded holistically for the execution of construction techniques and then further marks can be awarded for the overall standard of the item produced. This is worth 8 marks at National 5 and 6 marks at Higher.

Indicators of the standard of finish include:

- ◆ accurate shape/fit
- ◆ correct use of grain
- ◆ good drape/lack of distortion
- ◆ pressing for final finish
- ◆ trimming all threads
- ◆ fitness for purpose
- ◆ aesthetic appeal
- ◆ appropriate textile(s) used

Photographic evidence required:

The following photographic evidence of the manufacture of the item must be provided:

- ◆ the textiles and components used to make the item
- ◆ the item during at least two stages of manufacture
- ◆ the completed item

Additional evidence of construction techniques carried out may also be included.

A range of benchmark examples at National 5-Higher level have been presented overleaf.

Benchmark 1: Christmas Cushion

Entry level - Higher

Quality of construction techniques		
Construction technique planned (highest tariff first)	Mark available	Mark awarded
Technique 1: Piped seam	6	5
Technique 2: Concealed zip	6	5
Technique 3: Multiple technique embellishment	6	6
Technique 4: Small covered button	5	3
Technique 5: Creating a simple paper pattern	3	3
Technique 6: Tailor's tacking	3	1
Technique 7: Plain seams with zig zagged edge	3	3
Technique 8: Simple patchwork	2	2
Subtotal:	30 (34)	28
Note: Please note that although the candidate's potential marks add up to 34 the total marks available for the eight construction techniques at Higher is 30.		
Overall standard of completed fashion/textile item		
Award up to 6 marks for the overall standard of the finished textile item	Mark available	Mark awarded
	6	4
Total overall (36 marks available) 32 marks awarded		

Notes of information to support the marks:

- ◆ Piping is even most of the way around the cushion.
- ◆ Concealed zip has been executed well but would have looked better if it had been the same colour as the fabric.
- ◆ Neat covered button but should have been secured in place better as slightly wobbly.
- ◆ All patchwork squares have been matched up evenly.
- ◆ The overall finish of the cushion is excellent however, the shape of the hearts was a little uneven and the finish on the beading was spoiled by threads not being properly trimmed. However, the overall finish of the cushion is very good, so 4 marks awarded.

Benchmark 1: Christmas Cushion



Benchmark 2: Cord Pinafore

Entry level - Higher

Quality of construction techniques		
Construction technique planned (highest tariff first)	Mark available	Mark awarded
Technique 1: Concealed zip	6	6
Technique 2: Top stitched	5	5
Technique 3: Shaped facings	4	4
Technique 4: Felled seam	3	3
Technique 5: Shaped patch pocket	3	1
Technique 6: Pre-made buckle and straps	3	1
Technique 7: Tailors tacks	3	2
Technique 8: Overlocking	2	2
Subtotal:	30 (29)	24
Note: Although there are 30 marks available at Higher, the construction techniques identified by this candidate can be awarded a maximum of 29 marks.		
Overall standard of completed fashion/textile item		
Award up to 6 marks for the overall standard of the finished textile item	Mark available	Mark awarded
	6	4
Total overall (36 marks available) 28 marks awarded		

Notes of information to support the marks:

- ◆ One of the shaped patch pockets has excellent top stitching and the other was slightly wobbly.
- ◆ The hammer on button and buckle has been carefully positioned with straps that fit, although the straps positioning was squint.
- ◆ Concealed zip, facing, overlocking and top stitching and felled seams were all beautifully done.
- ◆ The overall finish of this item was well done however, the quality of the straps could have been better to allow for wear and tear. Had this candidate added extra detail to the pinafore, the full mark allocation could have been accessed.

Benchmark 2: Cord Pinafore



Benchmark 3: Bomber Jacket

Entry level - Higher

Quality of construction techniques		
Construction technique planned (highest tariff first)	Mark available	Mark awarded
Technique 1: Welted pockets	5	5
Technique 2: Pre-ribbed fabric collar	5	3
Technique 3: Shaped darts in shoulder	5	5
Technique 4: Top stitching around waistband	5	4
Technique 5: Applying a stretch waistband	4	4
Technique 6: Semi concealed zip	3	1
Technique 7: Raglan sleeves	3	3
Technique 8: Laying out pattern on a detailed fabric	3	2
Subtotal:	30 (33)	27
Note: Please note that although the candidate's potential marks add up to 33 the total marks available for the eight construction techniques at Higher is 30.		
Overall standard of completed fashion/textile item		
Award up to 6 marks for the overall standard of the finished textile item	Mark available	Mark awarded
	6	4
Total overall (36 marks available) 31 marks awarded		

Notes of information to support the marks:

- ◆ Overall, the fabric ribbed collar has been secured in place well although this does not meet at the front of the jacket, which effects the overall look.
- ◆ The jacket is sitting nicely on the model showing that the shoulder darts are well positioned and smooth.
- ◆ The top stitching around the back of the item is neat at the back of the item, but less neat around the front.
- ◆ Semi concealed zip has been put into the jacket well, however the positioning of this could be wrong as the zip does not reach the top of the jacket.
- ◆ Raglan sleeves are excellently executed.
- ◆ The small pattern pieces on waistband should have be positioned better on the fabric to make them look better.
- ◆ Overall, the bomber jacket has been well made and drapes well. The candidate has worked well with the stretch fabric and finished the product to a high standard.
- ◆ Due to the complex pattern within the fabric the pattern has gone slightly squint around the zip edge therefore distorting the front of the jacket slightly.

Benchmark 3: Bomber Jacket





Benchmark 4: Lined Bucket Shopper Bag
Entry level - National 5

Quality of construction techniques		
Construction technique planned (highest tariff first)	Mark available	Mark awarded
Technique 1: Piped edge	5	5
Technique 2: Envelope fold zip	5	5
Technique 3: Fitted lining with circular base	5	5
Technique 4: Straight bias binding	4	4
Technique 5: Magnetic fastening	3	1
Technique 6: Applying a braid	3	3
Technique 7: Complex modification to commercial pattern	3	2
Technique 8: Plain machine stitch on leather	1	1
Subtotal:	28 (29)	26
Note: Please note that although the candidate's potential marks add up to 29 the total marks available for the eight construction techniques at National 5 is 28.		
Overall standard of completed fashion/textile item		
Award up to 8 marks for the overall standard of the finished textile item	Mark available	Mark awarded
	8	8
Total overall (36 marks available) 34 marks awarded		

Notes of information to support the marks:

- ◆ This bag has been made to a very high standard and although it has been marked within a National 5 course assignment, the complexity of the techniques attempted by the candidate were sufficient to meet the criteria for Higher.
- ◆ The envelope fold zip has turned out well. This style of opening did not appear in the marking grid so a professional judgement was required.
- ◆ The magnetic clip was secured well, however only a thin interfacing was used so it may not withstand use.
- ◆ The flap design was added to the commercial paper pattern. The flap could have been curved slightly better as it was slightly uneven.
- ◆ Overall, the finish of the bag was excellent and it is highly functional. The candidate worked well with a range of complex fabrics. From an aesthetic point of view, the tweed used inside the pocket is not in keeping with the style of the bag, however this is my opinion and does not affect the quality of the bag, therefore 8 marks awarded.

Benchmark 4: Lined Bucket Shopper Bag



Benchmark 5: Denim Skirt

Entry level - National 5

Quality of construction techniques		
Construction technique planned (highest tariff first)	Mark available	Mark awarded
Technique 1: Top stitching	5	3
Technique 2: Box pleats	5	5
Technique 3: Semi concealed zip	4	4
Technique 4: Patch pocket with flaps	4	2
Technique 5: Single piece waistband	3	3
Technique 6: Tailors tacks	3	1
Technique 7: Darts	2	2
Technique 8: Plain machined hem	2	2
Subtotal:	28	22
Overall standard of completed fashion/textile item		
Award up to 8 marks for the overall standard of the finished textile item	Mark available	Mark awarded
	8	5
Total overall (36 marks available) 27 marks awarded		

Notes of information to support the marks:

- ◆ The topstitching on the waistband is highly visible, these stitches should have been closer to the edge.
- ◆ The flaps look quite big for the pocket; this should have been considered, however overall the stitching is very neat.
- ◆ Box pleats, zip, darts and machined hems were completed to the highest standard.
- ◆ The overall quality of this item was suitable for use, however the following recommendations were given - to press work and trim threads inside before presenting the work.

Benchmark 5: Denim Skirt





Benchmark 6: Dog Coat
Entry level - National 5

Quality of construction techniques		
Construction technique planned (highest tariff first)	Mark available	Mark awarded
Technique 1: Piped seams in hood	5	3
Technique 2: Bound hem around the edge	5	3
Technique 3: Press studs	2	2
Technique 4: Velcro fastening	1	1
Technique 5: Simple modifications to amend the pattern	2	2
Technique 6: Addition of name label	1	1
Technique 7: Tailors chalk to mark to fasteners placement	1	1
Technique 8:	N/A	N/A
Subtotal	18	13
<p>Note: This candidate has only identified a total of seven construction techniques for assessment, therefore, the maximum marks available would be 21. Although this candidate has identified two 4/5 mark techniques as required at National 5, the techniques identified by the candidate can access a maximum of 18 marks.</p>		
Overall standard of completed fashion/textile item		
Award up to 8 marks for the overall standard of the finished textile item	Mark available	Mark awarded
	8	5
<p>Total overall (36 marks available) 18 marks awarded</p>		

Notes of information to support the marks:

- ◆ Due to the number of techniques being below eight this candidate could only potentially be awarded a maximum of 21 marks, however they only achieved 13.
- ◆ The candidate could have enhanced their product to meet the eight techniques expectation by adding an applique or even a small pocket on the side. Alternatively, a zip closure rather than Velcro would have brought this up to the right level.
- ◆ The overall quality was satisfactory, however the item seemed unfinished and still had hanging threads and gaps in the bias tape that needed repaired after assessment. However, the coat was functional.

Benchmark 6: Dog Coat



