

Unit Title:	Preparing and planting a site
OCR unit number:	E3
Life and Living Skill Area:	Horticulture
Level:	Entry 3
Credit value:	2
Guided learning hours:	20

Unit purpose and aim

This unit aims to provide learners with the opportunity to demonstrate that they can prepare a planting site ready for planting, plant the site with suitable plant material whilst following safe working practices and cleaning and storing tools and equipment after use.

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria	Example of ways assessment criteria could be met
The Learner will: 1 Be able to clear and prepare a planting site	The Learner can: 1.1 Clear a site 1.2 Prepare a site ready for planting 1.3 Remove and dispose of debris appropriately	<p>The learner can show that they can clear a site for planting. Examples could include: clearing an allotment area by weeding, digging up an area of lawn ready for a new border, removing large stones from an area of ground previously uncultivated.</p> <p>Learners can prepare a site ready for planting. Examples could include: covering bare earth with a material to suppress weed growth, digging over an allotment area, washing a seed tray and adding compost to a suitable depth.</p> <p>The learner disposes of plant debris appropriately. Examples could include: collecting weeds and adding to a compost heap, shredding woody stems in a shredder, cutting woody stems into short lengths for the compost heap.</p>

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria	Example of ways assessment criteria could be met
2 Be able to plant up the prepared site	2.1 Plant the prepared site	The learner plants the prepared area. Examples could include: planting seed potatoes, spacing at 30cm intervals, heaping over the soil and labelling the row with a marker. Filling a garden planter with summer bedding plants, arranging the plants (by putting trailing plants around the edge of the planter), firming the plants in and watering, sowing seeds in a seed tray at an appropriate density, covering with compost/clear polythene as required, watering, labelling the tray with a marker and placing in a propagator.
3 Be able to work safely	3.1 Work in a way that minimises risks to self and others 3.2 Wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) 3.3 Use tools safely and effectively when preparing the site	<p>The learner shows that they can work safely. Examples could include: identifying where assistance from others may be needed to prevent injury to self, following instructions, showing awareness of others whilst working.</p> <p>The learner wears the appropriate PPE for the task. Examples could include: suitable footwear, protective gloves, overalls.</p> <p>The learner uses tools safely and effectively. Examples could include: making sure equipment is not left lying across a pathway, using a spade to work along a straight line when digging, using a fork to the required depth when turning over the soil.</p>
4 Be able to clean tools after use	4.1 Clean tools after use	The learner cleans tools after use. Examples could include: removing loose soil from a garden fork, washing the blade of a spade.

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria	Example of ways assessment criteria could be met
5 Be able to store tools and equipment after use	5.1 Store tools and/or equipment appropriately after use	The learner stores tools/equipment after use. Examples could include: returning a spade to the hook in the tool shed, storing a wheelbarrow so water doesn't collect in the base, returning any containers used to collect weeds/stones to the storage area.

Assessment

This unit may be assessed using any method, or combination of methods, which clearly demonstrate that the learning outcomes and assessment criteria have been met.

Possible ways of demonstrating that the assessment criteria have been met are provided in the third column of the unit, these are examples only, learners may demonstrate their ability to meet the criteria in many other ways.

Evidence requirements

Candidates must show they have prepared a planting site (for example, open ground, a border, a garden planter, a seed tray), planted the site with suitable plant material whilst following safe working practices, wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment, using tools and equipment safely and effectively and cleaning and storing tools/equipment after use.

The Record of Assessment for this unit must be completed in full and signed by the assessor to confirm the evidence is authentic and meets the requirements of the learning outcomes and assessment criteria. The completed Record of Assessment, together with any other appropriate form of evidence that has been generated for the unit, must be submitted for moderation.

Additional information

Centres must ensure that health and safety procedures are followed in order to ensure that learners are protected from unnecessary risks and danger.