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# Qualification Specification

iHB2D12 – VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 2 Diploma in  
Barbering

603/5113/5

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# About VTCT Skills (ITEC)

iTEC is a global specialist organisation providing qualifications internationally, and specialises in beauty & spa therapy, hairdressing, complimentary therapies and sports and fitness therapy. iTEC offers centres and learners high quality regulated qualifications for employability, specialist subjects and skills enhancement.

iTEC has close working partnerships with over 700 approved centres in over 40 countries, and offices in England, Ireland, South Africa, Asia Pacific and the USA. iTEC became part of VTCT (Vocational Training and Charitable Trust), in 2016 to strengthen its position in the industry internationally.

For more information visit us at [www.itecworld.co.uk](http://www.itecworld.co.uk), or contact our dedicated Customer Support Team via email; [customersupport@vtct.org.uk](mailto:customersupport@vtct.org.uk) or call +44 (0)23 8068 4500

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# 1. Qualification at a glance

<b>Qualification title</b>	VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 2 Diploma in Barbering
<b>Qualification number</b>	603/5113/5
<b>Product code</b>	iHB2D12
<b>First registration date</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2019
<b>Age range</b>	16-18, 19+
<b>Total Qualification Time (TQT)</b>	520
<b>Guided Learning (GL) hours</b>	389
<b>Assessment</b>	<p>To be awarded this qualification, learners must successfully achieve the following assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Theory examination (MCQ)</li><li>• Synoptic practical examination</li><li>• Service Portfolio</li></ul>
<b>Grading</b>	<p>The overall qualification is graded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fail, Pass, Merit, Distinction</li></ul>
<b>Entry requirements</b>	<p>It is the responsibility of the centre to ensure that learners have the required knowledge, understanding and skills to enrol and successfully achieve this qualification.</p>

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## 3. About this qualification

### 3.1 Purpose

The VTCT Skills (ITEC) Learner 2 Diploma in Barbering is a vocational qualifications for learners who wish to pursue a career in barbering/men's hairdressing and for those learners who have undertaken women's hairdressing and wish to diversify and specialise in men's barbering.

This qualification is based on the national occupational standards in the United Kingdom for barbering and includes all the required elements to work effectively as a junior barber/men's stylist. Learners must achieve all eight mandatory units, which include:

- Advise and consult with clients for men's hair services
- Shampoo, condition and treat men's hair and scalp
- Cutting men's hair using basic techniques
- Dry and finish men's hair
- Cut facial hair to shape using basic techniques
- Create basic outlines and detailing in hair
- Clipper maintenance
- Hair tonics

This qualification is most suitable for those learners who wish to become a junior barber/men's stylist encompassing all of the technical skills required within a barbershop/salon or for self-employment. It rewards learner's individual abilities both in practical and theory with a graded outcome of Fail/Pass/Merit/Distinction.

### 3.3 Progression

Learners who achieve this qualification are able to work as a junior barber/men's stylist, learners could work in a variety of different sectors, which might include:

- Commercial barbershops/salons
- Independent/self-employed/mobile/home-based salon settings
- Training and assessment within private centres/colleges
- Cruise liners
- Television, film, theatre and media
- Hospitals/care homes

Additionally learners may choose to develop their knowledge and skills by undertaking a Level 3 Men's Hairdressing or Level 3 Barbering qualification.

## 4. Qualification structure

To be awarded the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 2 Diploma in Barbering learners must achieve:

- all mandatory units
- the theory examinations
- the synoptic practical examination

The minimum TQT required to achieve this qualification is 520.

Product code	Unit title	Level	GL	Unit reference number
<b>Mandatory units</b>				
iUHB318	Advise and consult with clients for men's hair services	2	63	J/617/8084
iUHB319	Shampoo, condition and treat men's hair and scalp	2	40	L/617/8085
iUHB320	Cutting men's hair using basic techniques	2	111	R/617/8086
iUHB321	Dry and finish men's hair	2	45	Y/617/8087
iUHB322	Cut facial hair to shape using basic techniques	2	42	D/617/8088
iUHB323	Create basic outlines and detailing in hair	2	48	H/617/8089
iUHB324	Clipper maintenance	3	20	Y/617/8090
iUHB325	Hair tonics	3	20	D/617/8091

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## 5. Centre requirements

### 5.1 Approval and recognition

Existing centres that wish to deliver this qualification must obtain recognition using the standard qualification recognition procedures.

New centres that want to deliver this qualification must gain both centre approval and qualification recognition. Please refer to the awarding organisations website for further information.

Centre staff should be familiar with current practices and standards in the sector and with the qualification structure, content, assessment and quality assurance arrangements before designing a course programme.

### 5.2 Resources

Centres must possess the physical resources and suitable environment needed to support the delivery of the programme and the assessment of knowledge and skills, which should therefore be of industry standard. Where specific resources are required these have been indicated in the content of individual units.

It is recommended the following items are available for learners:

- Salon equipment to include:
  - Brush/broom, pan and covered receptacle for disposing of hair cuttings, sterilising equipment, wipes and/or fluid – sharps box
  - Basins, working units with mirrors and back mirrors
  - Barber's chairs
  - Hand-held hairdryers, electrical styling equipment (Refer to the unit content for requirements)
  - Sets of hair clippers and attachments/guards
  - Electrical accelerator/steamer
  - Full range of shampooing, conditioning, tonics and treatment products
  - Full range of salon products, tools and equipment for all salon services including chemical services where appropriate
- Reception desk/area to include:
  - Telephone and till, internet, books, magazines, service/treatment price lists
  - Retail products/items
- Health and safety products, tools and equipment, to include:
  - Personal protective equipment (PPE), towels, gowns, gloves, aprons and capes, sharps bin, cleaning equipment and bins with lids and disposable liners for disposing of waste

### 5.3 Teaching staff

In order to deliver this qualification, teaching staff must:

- Be occupational experts and have knowledge and understanding in the area for which they are delivering training. This knowledge must be at the same level as or higher than the training being delivered
- Understand the qualification's structure and content, and the learning outcomes they are delivering;
- Have recent and relevant industry experience in the specific area they are delivering
- Have credible experience of teaching and/or providing training
- Undertake activities which contribute to their continuing professional development (CPD).

### 5.4 Verification

The lecturer/internal assessor will assess and mark the service portfolios and the external examiner will verify a sample, either in situ on the day of the practical exam or remotely on e-portfolio.

### 5.5 Total Qualification Time (TQT)

TQT is defined under the Ofqual General Conditions of Recognition, General Condition J1.8, as the number of notional hours which represents an estimate of the total amount of time that could reasonably be expected to be required in order for a learner to achieve and demonstrate achievement of the level of attainment necessary for the award of a qualification.

TQT is comprised of the following two elements:

- the number of hours which an awarding organisation has assigned to a qualification for Guided Learning, and;
- an estimate of the number of hours a learner will reasonably be likely to spend in preparation, study or any other form of participation in education or training, including assessment, which takes place as directed – but, unlike Guided Learning, not under the immediate guidance or supervision of – a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training.

The TQT for this qualification is detailed in Section 4 of this specification.



## 6. Assessment

### 6.1 Summary of assessment methods

This qualification comprises internal and external assessments. Learners must achieve the assessments detailed in the table below.

Assessment method	Overview of controls
Theory examinations (MCQ)	Externally set and marked examinations.
Synoptic practical examination (HB2D12.PE1)	Externally set, examined and marked by an external examiner.
Service portfolio including style collections	Externally set and internally marked. Subject to examiner monitoring.

### 6.2 Unit assessment methods

The table below identifies the assessment methods used to assess mandatory units.

Unit product code	Service portfolio	Theory examination	Synoptic practical examination
iUHB318	✓	✓	✓
iUHB319	✓	✓	✓
iUHB320*	✓		✓
iUHB321*	✓		✓
iUHB322*	✓		✓
iUHB323*	✓		✓
iUHB324	✓		
iUHB325	✓		

\*To include a style collection

## 6.3 Theory examination

The specification for the theory examination is detailed below.

External theory examinations	
Availability	Available on demand online
Grading model	Mandatory units: Pass: 60%-74% = 75 points each Merit: 75%-89% = 90 points each Distinction: 90%-100% = 105 points each
Units that will be individually assessed by an multiple choice questions (MCQ)	Mandatory units: iUHB318 Advise and consult with clients for men's hair services iUHB319 Shampoo, condition and treat men's hair and scalp
Contribution to overall qualification grade	30%
Type of examination	Multiple choice questions

Grades achieved in each external examination are awarded points that contribute to the overall qualification grade.

Examinations must be undertaken by learners under controlled examination conditions in accordance with VTCT Skills (ITEC) policies and procedures for external assessment.

## 6.4 Synoptic practical examination

The synoptic practical examination is externally set, externally examined, graded and quality assured by external examiner. Information on how to operate practical examinations can be found the on awarding organisations website.

In preparation for the synoptic practical examination, centres are advised to ensure learners have completed their service portfolios and an internal mock practical examination. As part of the service portfolio learners are required to have completed their style collection before the synoptic practical examination is taken. The style collection work must be available for the external examiner to view on the day of the synoptic practical examination.

It is essential centres use the Synoptic Practical Examination Criteria document in order to make assessment judgements when preparing for examinations. This can be found on the awarding organisation's website.

The synoptic practical examination preparation must take place in a realistic working environment on a real client and in a commercially acceptable time frame.

External synoptic practical examination (HB2D12.PE1)	
<b>Availability</b>	To be taken on the scheduled date for examination purposes as agreed by the awarding organisation and invigilated by an external examiner.
<b>Grading model</b>	Pass: 60%-74% = 350 points Merit: 75%-89% = 420 points Distinction: 90%-100% = 490 points
<b>Units covered</b>	iUHB318 Advise and consult with clients for men's hair services iUHB319 Shampoo, condition and treat men's hair and scalp iUHB320 Cutting men's hair using basic techniques iUHB321 Dry and finish men's hair iUHB322 Cut facial hair to shape using basic techniques iUHB323 Create basic outlines and detailing in hair
<b>Contribution to overall qualification grade</b>	70%
<b>Type of examination</b>	Synoptic practical examined assessment
<b>Practical skills examination sequence (approximately 3 hours)</b>	Details for the synoptic practical examination criteria can be found in the Synoptic Practical Examination Criteria document located on the iTEC website.  There is a maximum of 12 learners permitted per synoptic practical examination.

#### 6.4.1 Retaking external examinations

Learners who fail to achieve the required Pass mark are permitted to re-sit after having sufficient teaching and additional study time. There is no limit to the number of retakes a learner can carry out.

#### 6.4.2 Reasonable adjustments and special considerations

Information on the reasonable adjustments allowed for the external examinations within this qualification can be found in the policies section on the awarding organisations website.

### 6.5 Service portfolio

A service portfolio for each unit is required to be completed under the supervision of a lecturer who must monitor the quality of the services performed throughout the learner's training. The criteria of what must be included in the service portfolio is detailed in the unit specification and the learner logbook which are available to download from the website.

This service portfolio will include a style collection for:

- iUHB320 Cutting men's hair using basic techniques
- iUHB321 Dry and finish men's hair
- iUHB322 Cut facial hair to shape using basic techniques
- iUHB323 Create basic outlines and detailing in hair

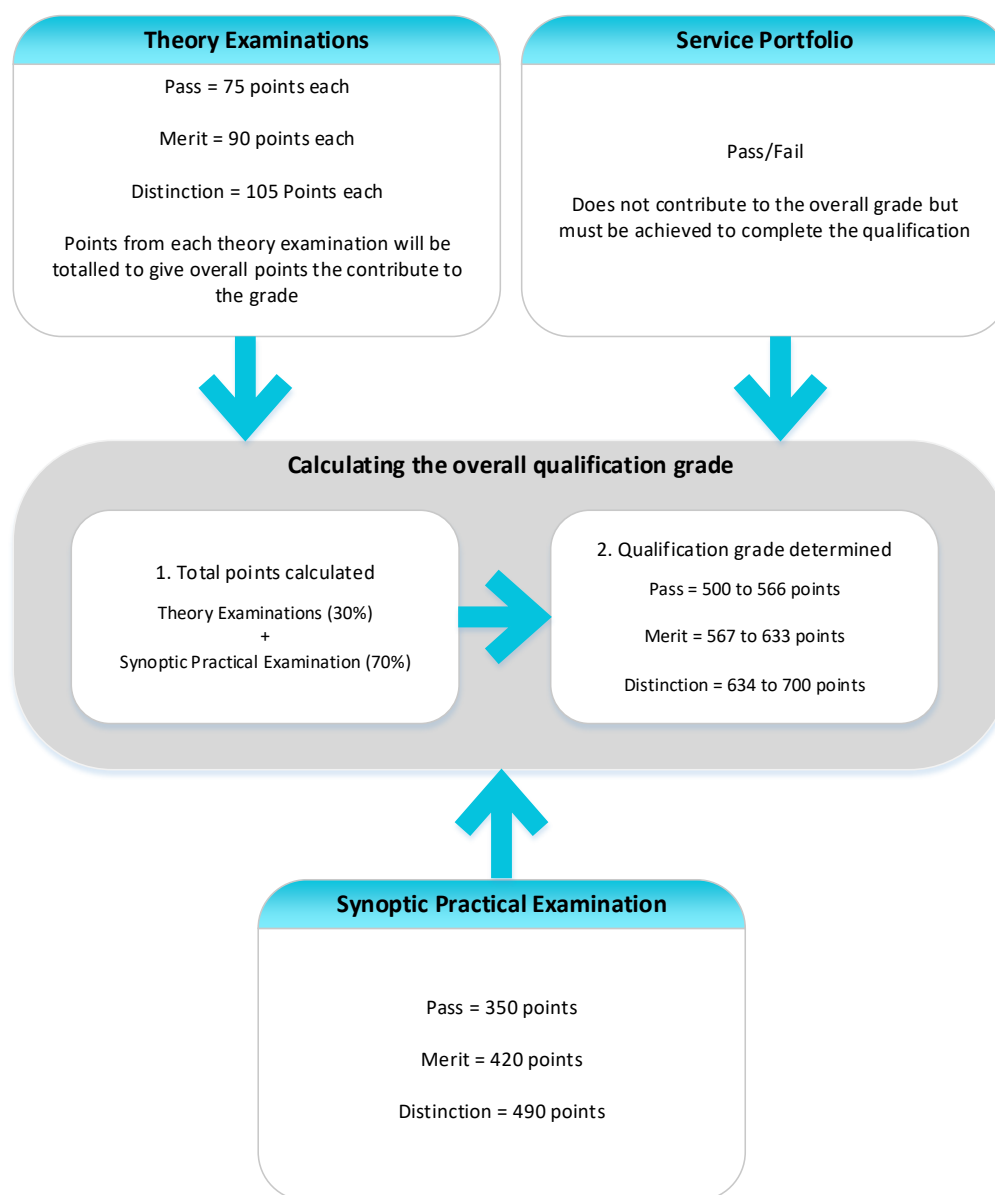
# 7. Grading

## 7.1 Overview

This qualification is graded Pass/Merit/Distinction.

There are two separate components in the grading model for this qualification, the graded external examinations and a graded external synoptic practical examination. The graded external examination components contributes 30% and the graded external synoptic practical examination component contributes 70% to the overall qualification grade.

Learners must achieve a Pass grade or higher in the external theory examinations and synoptic practical examination. The grades achieved in each assessment correlate to points. These points will then be added together to determine the overall grade of the qualification, as shown below:



## 7.2 Grade boundary review

Grade boundaries for units and the overall calculation for the qualification grade are open to annual review. Following this review, these boundaries and overall calculations can be adjusted by VTCT Skills (ITEC) . This review and possible change within a qualification are to ensure the standard of the qualification grade is upheld throughout the qualification's lifecycle.

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## 8. External examiner

### 8.1 External examiner visits

This qualification is externally examined by the awarding organisation. Centres delivering this qualification will have a quality assurance visit each time an examiner visits the centre.

On a centre visit an examiner:

- examines all learners entered for the external practical examination
- samples learners' service portfolio
- verifies that appropriate staff and sufficient resources are in place, and that the centre is continuing to meet the criteria specified in the centre contract
- checks that the centre's policies and procedures continue to meet the awarding organisation's requirements

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## 9. Support and guidance

In parallel to using this qualification specification the following resources are available to support qualification delivery and assessment:

- Unit specifications
- Learner logbooks
- Mock practical examination form
- Sample assessment materials
- Consultation sheets

For more information, visit the iTEC website ([www.itecworld.co.uk](http://www.itecworld.co.uk)).

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## 10. Unit structure

Units are available as separate specifications and can be downloaded from the iTEC website. Units that make up this qualification are structured as follows:

<b>Product code</b>	The code allocated by the awarding organisation. This should be used when communicating directly with the awarding organisation.
<b>Title</b>	Reflects the content of the unit.
<b>Unit reference number</b>	This is the unit reference number as detailed on Ofqual's Register of Regulated Qualifications.
<b>Level</b>	This represents the level of achievement. The National Qualifications Framework level descriptors and similar qualifications at this level inform the allocation of the unit level.
<b>Guided Learning (GL) hours</b>	All units have GL assigned to them. This is the time a learner spends: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• being taught or given instruction by a lecturer, tutor, supervisor or other appropriate provider of education or training.</li></ul>
<b>Overview</b>	Provides a summary of what learners will cover in a unit, and outlines the knowledge, understanding and skills to be developed.
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	Specify what a learner will know, understand and be able to do as a result of completing a unit.
<b>Unit content</b>	Provides the basis for the teaching, learning and assessment of each learning outcome. Lecturers should ensure that the full breadth of unit content is delivered.
<b>Unit requirements</b>	Specifies the minimum standard required by the learner to achieve the relevant grade. Learners must provide sufficient and valid evidence to achieve the grade.



## Document History

Version	Issue Date	Changes	Role
v1.0	30/08/2019	First published	Head of Qualifications and Processing
v2.0	20/11/2019	Amended typographical error on page 5	Qualifications and Regulation Co-ordinator
v3.0	03/12/2019	Added grade boundary review	Qualifications Administrator
v4.0	01/09/2020	Added COVID-19 Infection Prevention pre-requisite	Product and Regulation Manager
v5.0	05/01/2021	Amended QN number	Qualifications Administrator
v6.0	01/08/2022	Removed COVID-19 Infection Prevention pre-requisite	Product and Regulation Coordinator
v7.0	01/01/2025	New branding	Qualifications Administrator