

VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Nail Services
QAN 501/1283/1
Specification

Aims and Objectives

The main aim of the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Nail Services is to enable Learners to gain the necessary practical skills and knowledge in order to provide Nail Services to the general public and to gain employment in the Nail Industry. The qualification is suitable for Learners aged 16 and over and is designed to provide occupational competence at Level 3. It also provides a sound platform into further learning at Levels 3

Content

This qualification is for Learners who want to work within the Nail Industry. The qualification consists of 3 units, all of which are mandatory; Learners must also select optional units covering a minimum of 166 hours of guided learning (GL). A minimum of 356 hours of guided learning are required to achieve the full qualification

The main skills the Learner will perform are:

- Application of nail enhancement systems – to include gel application, maintenance and removal
- Application of nail enhancement systems – to include liquid and powder application, maintenance and removal

The Learner will also develop knowledge about related health and safety and client care and communication which is essential to work and be successful in the Beauty Industry

The Learner will also be able to choose from a range of optional units to complete the qualification, for example:

- Develop a range of creative nail images
- Plan and create nail art designs
- Plan and provide airbrush design for nails
- Prepare and finish nail overlays using electric files
- Enhance and maintain nails using wraps
- Contribute to the planning and implementation of promotional activities
- Contribute to the financial effectiveness of the business

The qualification also provides:

- The related knowledge and understanding required to perform the nail skills outlined above
- Opportunities for Learners to focus on the development of their wider skills in a nail setting, such as communicating with clients, working with others and problem solving
- Opportunities for Learners to develop a range of skills, techniques, personal qualities and attitudes essential for successful performance in employment as a Nail Technician

Why Choose the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Nail Services?

1. This Qualification combines the full range of skills and knowledge for the Learner seeking employment or self-employment as a Nail Technician at Level 3. This Qualification is the only VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Nail Services that meets the current National Occupational Standards
2. This Qualification is listed in the Ofqual Register of Qualifications
3. This Qualification contains all the skills and knowledge required for employability at Level 3
4. Learners may progress on to the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Therapy General, the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy Massage, the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 3 Diploma in Beauty Therapy Make-up, or the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 3 Diploma in Spa Therapy
5. This qualification also forms part of the Level 3 Apprenticeship in Nail Services. This qualification can be studied outside the apprenticeship by Learners who are unable to gain an apprenticeship position or are not eligible for an apprenticeship due to prior qualifications, but wish to be occupationally competent and employed as a Nail Technician
6. This qualification leads to employability and is the employer's preference with support from Beauty Therapy salons across the UK. It remains the qualification of choice amongst Further Education Colleges as local employers require it for their employees
7. This qualification is recognised by all relevant professional bodies within the Beauty Therapy Industry for membership and insurance purposes at Level 3

Unit Number	Unit Title	Credit Value	Guided Learning (GL)
739 (N6)	Enhance and Maintain Nails Using UV Gel	10	80
740 (N7)	Enhance and Maintain Nails Using Liquid and Powder	10	80
537 (G22)	Monitor Procedures to Safely Control Work Operations	4	30

Guided Learning for Mandatory Units - 190

Total Qualification Time (TQT) for Mandatory Units - 226

Learners must also select units covering a minimum of 166 hours of guided learning from the following optional units:

Unit Number	Unit Title	Credit Value	Guided Learning (GL)
741 (N10)	Develop a Range of Creative Nail Images	5	33
742 (N9)	Plan and Create Nail Art Designs	6	40
743 (N11)	Plan and Provide Airbrush Design for Nails	5	45
744 (N12)	Prepare and Finish Nail Overlays Using Electric Files	4	35
745 (N8)	Enhance and Maintain Nails Using Wraps	8	61
549 (H32)	Contribute to the Planning and Implementation of Promotional Activities	5	32
547 (G11)	Contribute to the Financial Effectiveness of the Business	4	26

Minimum Total Guided Learning including Optional Units – 356
Minimum Total Qualification Time (TQT) including Optional Units – 477
Total Credit Value for the Qualification - 48

Guided Learning (GL)

Guided Learning is the ‘activity of a Learner in being taught or instructed by – or otherwise participating in education or training under the immediate guidance or supervision of – a Lecturer, Supervisor, Tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training’. This includes ‘the activity of being assessed if the assessment takes place under the immediate guidance or supervision of a Lecturer, Supervisor, Tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training’

Total Qualification Time (TQT)

Total Qualification Time is 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 the achievement of the level of attainment necessary for the award of the qualification

Total Credit Value

The total Credit Value for the qualification is equal to one tenth of the Total Qualification Time rounded to the nearest whole number.

Assessment

This qualification will be internally and externally assessed using a range of assessment methods as set out in the table below:-

Table 1

Unit Number	Unit Title	Assessment	Grading
739 (N6)	Enhance and Maintain Nails Using UV Gel	Practical assessment plus MCQ – paper or online	Pass/Refer Pass/Refer
740 (N7)	Enhance and Maintain Nails Using Liquid and Powder	Practical assessment plus MCQ – paper or online	Pass/Refer Pass/Refer
537 (G22)	Monitor Procedures to Safely Control Work Operations	Practical assessment plus oral questions	Pass/Refer

Optional Units

Table 2

Unit Number	Unit Title	Assessment	Grading
741 (N10)	Develop a Range of Creative Nail Images	Practical assessment plus oral questions	Pass/Refer
742 (N9)	Plan and Create Nail Art Designs	Practical assessment plus oral questions	Pass/Refer
743 (N11)	Plan and Provide Airbrush Design for Nails	Practical assessment plus oral questions	Pass/Refer
744 (N12)	Prepare and Finish Nail Overlays Using Electric Files	Practical assessment plus MCQ – paper or online	Pass/Refer Pass/Refer
745 (N8)	Enhance and Maintain Nails Using Wraps	Practical assessment plus MCQ – paper or	Pass/Refer Pass/Refer

		online	
549 (H32)	Contribute to the Planning and Implementation of Promotional Activities	Practical assessment plus oral questions	Pass/Refer
547 (G11)	Contribute to the Financial Effectiveness of the Business	Practical assessment plus oral questions	Pass/Refer

All assessment criteria and sample assessment materials for this qualification can be found on the VTCT Skills website.

Grading of the Qualification

All assessment tasks required for each mandatory unit of the qualification (detailed in table 1 of the specification) and each selected optional unit covering a minimum of 166 hours (detailed in table 2 of the specification) must be completed and awarded a Pass mark before the complete qualification can be certificated

The overall qualification is graded as a Pass

Controlled Assessment

All theory tests must be conducted in a controlled environment and follow the procedures defined by VTCT Skills. The theory tests will be set and marked by VTCT Skills.

The internal assessment will be conducted by the Centre's Assessor/Internal Verifier(s) and will be sampled by the VTCT Skills External Verifier; however, the Centre is responsible for ensuring the assessment can operate seamlessly by organising the process as defined by VTCT Skills in the Lecturer/Assessor Guidance Notes. The assessment form can be found under each individual unit within the qualification.

Recommended Prior Learning

It is recommended that Learners should have achieved a level of education equivalent to five GCSEs at grade A*-C or a Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Nail Services prior to commencing the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Nail Services; however, exemptions may be made for adult returners with experience of the workplace.

Opportunities for Progression

Once Learners have achieved the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Nail Services they may progress on to other VTCT Skills or equivalent qualifications at Level 3, for example:

- Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Therapy General
- Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy Massage
- Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Beauty Therapy Make-up
- Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Spa Therapy

For further Awards, Certificates and Diplomas please go to www.vtctskills.org.uk

Opportunities for Employment

There are opportunities for Nail Technicians to find employment in a variety of areas:

- Beauty/nail salons
- Nail bars
- Hotels

- Health clubs
- Spas
- Own Business
- Cruise liners

Please see the letter of support from a centre within the industry, [White Rose School of Health and Beauty](#)

Relationship to National Occupational Standards

VTCT Skills has mapped to National Occupational Standards where they exist and has ensured that best practice in the workplace has been reflected in the qualification. VTCT Skills has linked the qualification to the relative job roles as well as ensuring that the qualification reflects the required level of knowledge and ability for the Nail Technician at Level 3

Professional Body Membership and Insurance

Professional Indemnity and Public Liability Insurance can be obtained via The Complementary Therapist Association (www.CThA.com) and other Industry Associations who recognise the VTCT Skills Diploma