

Purpose statement

The following purpose is for the **City & Guilds Level 2 Technical Certificate in Horticulture (603/0868/0)**.

Area	Description
OVERVIEW	
Who is this qualification for?	<p>This Level 2 Technical Certificate in Horticulture is for you if you are looking to start a career within the horticultural sector.</p>
	<p>The horticulture sector is made up of many diverse industries delivering the science, art, technology and business of 'growing plants'. The careers within horticulture are varied and range from crop production (fruit, vegetables, flowers, trees & shrubs and glasshouse crops), to landscaping, garden design and sports turf. Horticulture has a massive part to play in the future for our planet and the living things on it. From the food we eat, the sports we play, caring for the conservation of our environment, and the creation of beautiful spaces for our own human and health & wellbeing.</p>
	<p>The potential is vast and if you're ambitious, there is real scope to progress in this industry, have a fantastic, worthwhile, enjoyable career and make a real difference to the future of our planet and the people and creatures who live on it.</p>
	<p>This qualification is suitable if you are 16 years old, or over. You may or may not have any previous knowledge or experience in horticulture.</p>
	<p>You will gain an understanding of the skills and knowledge that are important when you are working in a horticultural setting, or progressing to further learning and training in this area.</p>
What does this qualification cover?	<p>This qualification covers the skills you will need to progress to further learning and training, or to enter the world of work within the horticultural sector. You will study the following mandatory content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="695 1904 1420 1938">• Health and safety for the land-based industries<li data-bbox="695 1938 1420 1971">• Working in the horticulture industry

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- Plant naming, identification, selection and science
 - Establishment and maintenance of plants outdoors
 - Care, maintenance and use of tools and machinery
 - Horticulture business skills

There is also a requirement to complete 150 hours of work experience.

You will then have the choice of studying one of the following areas:

- Commercial gardening and landscaping
- Sports turf technology
- Developing hard landscapes
- Production techniques in horticulture

The optional units can be chosen to reflect local or regional industry or business needs. They may help with your progression onto the Level 3 Technical qualifications where there maybe options, or pathways for you to choose from.

You will get lots of practice and support to enable you to develop the required skills and knowledge to prepare you for the learning and end assessment.

Colleges and training/education centres will work with local employers who will contribute to the knowledge and delivery of training. The different ways in which centres could support your learning, by working with both local and national horticultural businesses, include:

- structured work-experience or work-placements within their business
- your attendance at classes or lectures given by industry experts
- employers input into projects and exercises
- employers who act as 'expert witnesses' to contribute to the assessment of your work.

This practical based training is ideal preparation for gaining employment in the horticultural sector or specialist further study.

WHAT COULD THIS QUALIFICATION LEAD TO?

Will the qualification lead to employment, and if so, in which job role and at what level?

Achievement of this qualification demonstrates to an employer that you have the necessary technical skills and knowledge they are looking for when recruiting for a trainee:

- horticulture operative
 - landscape operative
 - golf greenkeeper
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Why choose this qualification over similar qualifications?

There are no other College-based qualifications within this suite at this Level.

Will the qualification lead to further learning?

Yes. Once you have successfully completed this qualification, you could go on to study a Level 3 College-based qualification over one year, or two years.

Over one year:

- Level 3 Advanced Technical Certificate in Horticulture
- Level 3 Advanced Technical Diploma in Horticulture (540)

Over two years:

- Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Horticulture (720)
- Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Horticulture (1080) (Professional Horticulture) or (Sports Turf)

The larger qualifications taken over two years will allow you to specialise in professional horticulture or sports turf, which could lead to a greater range of more diverse career opportunities.

This qualification could also lead you to an apprenticeship in Horticulture. There are a number of new and exciting apprenticeships currently being developed in the following occupations. Depending upon what you have achieved previously, you could progress to an apprenticeship as a:

- horticulture operative
- landscape operative
- horticulture supervisor
- landscape supervisor

WHO SUPPORTS THIS QUALIFICATION?

Professional/Trade Associations	Chartered Institute of Horticulture (CIH) The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC)
FURTHER INFORMATION	Please refer to the Qualification Handbook, available on the City & Guilds website, for more information on the structure of this qualification, the content of the units, and assessment.
