

SKILL-BUILD

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PRACTICE AND PREPERATION INSTRUCTIONS

Bricklaying

Interpret drawings

Part of the skill set of any bricklayer is to be able to read and interpret drawings.

It is advised, prior to competition, you work with your tutor and spend some time studying 1st Angle Orthographic Projection Drawings and developing your skills and understanding of drawings and the way in which detail is shown on them.

PPE

You will be required to comply with the Competition Skill Area Risk Assessment, this will include the wearing of the stated PPE during the competition. If the wearing of eye protection and gloves is not your normal way of working, then it is recommended you practice doing so as part of your preparation for competition.

Ensure you have all the necessary tools and that they are fit for purpose

Work through your processes in your head and along with your tutor check the tool list and ensure that you have everything you need and that it is in good working condition. Don't blame your tutor if anything is missing, ultimately your toolkit is YOUR responsibility. Putting the kit together correctly will save you time during the competition and money during your career.

Have a Plan

Always have a plan, and a plan B as plans might have to change, the main idea of a plan is to help you use your time wisely, practice looking at projects, breaking them down into elements or phases, formulate a sequence of work and allocate time to each phase.

Setting Out

Good setting out skills are essential to doing well at competition, developing good methods and processes with setting out practices can significantly improve both accuracy of your work in addition to your work efficiency and productivity, so be sure to spend time practicing a range of simple and complex setting out activities prior to competition.

Take time on your first course, and check

There are a lot of marks available on the first course so double check all dimensions, levels, and squares and that it looks like the plan of course 1 as shown on the drawing.

Jointing

This is an important skill of the bricklayer, and the key is timing, practice different types of joint finishes and work to develop your familiarity and skill with a range of tools and methods to get the best results.

Best Practice

In all bricklaying competitions best practice is always followed, so be mindful about brick cutting and joint finish.

Keep the work area clean and tidy

Marks for health, safety, waste, and tidiness are awarded on an ongoing basis. Prior to competition make sure you work to develop a clean and tidy way of working to ensure when you get to competition you work in a clean and tidy manner and keep your waste down to a minimum.

Work in a safe manner

As above, try to keep all required PPE on as you work, and this will ensure you are not penalised. Care should also be taken not to endanger those working close by.