

ESWATINI GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL TRADE STANDARD
APPROVED BY THE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING BOARD
FOR TRADE TESTING THE TRADE/OCCUPATION
OF
BLOCK LAYER/PLASTERER

(a) Practical skill requirements Grade I

In addition to fulfilling the Grade II and Grade III requirements: Every applicant must be able to:

1. Read and interpret building drawings.
2. Set out and construct block or brick arch work.
3. Construct fireplaces and chimneys.
4. Lay granolithic floor screed.
5. Place simple steel reinforcement for reinforced concrete work.
6. Apply Tyrolean finish to walls.
7. Plaster and render walls to a first class finish.
8. Lay and join drainage pipes to fall.

(b) Tools and equipment requirements Grade I

Every applicant should have in his possession and/or be able to use tools and equipment supplied as specified for Grades II and III plus any tools and equipment required to carry out the practical skill requirements Satisfactorily.

(c) Related knowledge requirements Grade I

In addition to fulfilling the Grade II and Grade III requirements: Every applicant must have a sound knowledge of:

1. Working sketches and scale drawings
2. The materials used in construction work and their safe storage.
3. The calculation of quantities of materials for various brick/block constructions, plastering, rendering, tiling, floor screeding, etc
4. Methods of setting out arches of various types in local use.
5. Fire place and chimney construction.
6. The application of steel reinforcement in simple concrete work.
7. The various wall finishes such as plaster, and/ cement rendering, Tyrolean, tiles, etc., and the proportions of mixes for the various finishes.
8. Laying drains and the determination of gradients for drainage pipe using boning rods.

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a) Practical Skill Requirements Grade II

In addition to fulfilling the Grade III requirements.

Every applicant must be able to:

1. Set up profiles and lines for the foundation trenches to a building.
2. Put in level pegs to foundation trenches.
3. Construct acute and obtuse angles in block-work and brickwork.
4. Erect scaffolding for construction and repair work.
5. Repair cracked walls and replace defective materials as required.
6. Construct curved walls by using trammels and/or templates.
7. Build gable ends.
8. Lay quarry tiles to floors and glazed tiles to walls.
9. Lay sand and cement floor screed.
10. Plaster and render walls in two coats.
11. Construct drainage manholes/inspection chambers.
12. Construct storm—water drains.
13. Lay concrete paving and/or paving slabs.
14. Lay drainage pipes using bonning rods.

b) Tools and Equipment Requirements Grade II

Every applicant should have in his possession and/or be able to use tools and equipment supplied as specified for Grade III plus any other tools and implements required to carry out the practical skill requirements satisfactorily.

c) Related Knowledge Requirements Grade II

In addition to fulfilling the Grade III requirements.

Every applicant must have a sound knowledge of:

1. Setting up profiles and lines for foundations particularly in relation to setting out right angles by the 3:4:5 or multiples of 3:4:5 method.
2. The method of levelling pegs for foundation trenches using boning rods and/or straight edge and level.

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a) Practical Skill Requirements Grade III

Every applicant must be able to.

1. Observe all safety precaution - personal and equipment.
2. Use measuring rule, spirit level, plumb line, gauge rod, etc.
3. Use and maintain in good condition all hand tools common to the trade such as trowels, hammer, chisels, etc.
4. Cut blocks and bricks to required size and shape.
5. Prepare mortar for various purposes according to instructions.
6. Construct walls with square corners and stopped ends and carry out the required pointing where necessary.
7. Mix and lay concrete for foundation floors and flat roofs.
8. Lay damp proof course where necessary according to instructions.
9. Build in door and window frames, sills and lintels.
10. Plaster and render walls.
11. Lay quarry floor tiles.
12. Erect low-level scaffolding.

b) Tools and equipment requirements Grade III

Every applicant should have in his [her possession and /or be able to use tools and equipment supplied as follows.

Boaster	Trowels	pointer
Spirit level	Builders-square	Buildersline/pins
Gauge rod	Chisels	Shovel
Straight-edge	Brick hammer	Hawk Plumb rule and bob
Club hammer	Claw hammer	metal measuring tape (5m)

Plus any allied equipment required to carry out the practical skill requirements satisfactorily.

c) Related Knowledge Requirements Grade III

Every applicant must have knowledge of:

1. Safety precautions (personal and equipment).
2. Good housekeeping-care and maintenance of the tools and equipment
3. Blocks and bricks used locally and their standard.
4. The type of sand, lime and cement used for mortar in bricklaying/block laying and plastering.
5. Bonding building blocks and/or bricks.
6. The purpose of damp proof courses and the type of materials used.
7. Types of pointing.
8. The methods of installing door and window frames to walls.
9. Lintels and sills and their application to door and window openings.
10. The proportion of materials used in plastering and rendering block or brick walls.
11. The proportion of materials used in concrete mixes for various purposes.
12. The method of laying and levelling quarry floor tiles.
13. The method of erecting simple low-level scaffolding.



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