

Assessment criteria <b>ECC4</b>		Feedback comments to candidate & Result $\sqrt{x}$
<b>WINDBLOWN &amp; DAMAGED TREE TECHNIQUES:</b>		Max. Time Allowed - <b>1hr 30min</b>
<b>This unit contains: ECC 4 (demonstrated on a windblown site &amp; with realistic tension forces)</b>		
<b>1. Take care of yourself (PPE) and others around you at work</b> - Candidate to wear appropriate PPE, sign RA & show ID:		
1. Chainsaw safety trousers	<b>c</b>	
2. Chainsaw safety boots	<b>c</b>	
3. Safety helmet	<b>c</b>	
4. Eye & ear protection	<b>c</b>	
5. Gloves appropriate to task		
6. Non-snag outer clothing		
7. Personal /Squad First Aid Kit - on work site	<b>c</b>	
8. Whistle/Mobile/Radio		
<b>2. What to do if there is emergency</b> - Candidate to identify hazards relevant to the site and trees to be worked on:		
1. RISK ASSESSMENT - walk site		
2. METHOD STATEMENT – verbal		
3. EMERGENCY PLANNING		
<b>3. Operational safety checks</b> - Candidate to check chainsaw for condition/sharpness etc and pre-use safety:		
1. Cold/Warm start method (ground/'leg lock')		
2. Safe start distance from fuel (min.1m, no spillage, gases released)		
3. Chain brake tested with saw running	<b>c</b>	
4. Saw checked for oiling (e.g. oil throw test or oil present on drive links)		
5. Chain not moving when throttle released ( <b>no chain creep</b> )		
6. On/off switch is working (pull choke to stop if not, then label not to be used)		
7. Chain tension 'warm' re-checked		
<b>4. Meet legal &amp; site environmental requirements in accordance with national standards</b>		
1. Protection of fauna, flora, wildlife, waterways, site specifications etc, regards pollution/damage:	<b>c</b>	
<b>5. Sever tree root plates both under &amp; over guidebar diameter using diameter using appropriate cuts</b> - The candidate must restrain one with a winch (backward or forward weighted) using safe techniques:		
Candidate to demonstrate appropriate reducing cut and stepped compression and tension cuts - used to sever a minimum of 3 root-plates:		
1. Check no risk to the operator from the root-plates rolling or falling or the stems springing (including sideways)		
2. Identify tension and compression in stems and select severing methods	<b>c</b>	
3. Sever root-plate safely from stem under guide-bar length in diameter		
4. Sever root-plate safely from stem over guide-bar length in diameter		
5. Sever root-plate to retain a saw log of appropriate length		
6. Ensure trees and root-plates are left in a safe and appropriate position and condition to enable subsequent operations		
7. Restrain a root plate with a winch using safe anchor point(s) and compatible winching components & ancillary equipment		
8. Sever winch-restrained root-plate safely using appropriate cuts (may be achieved as part of 3, 4 or 5 above)		
9. Ensure tree and root-plate are left safe, in appropriate position & condition		
10. Recover, clean and check winch as appropriate		
11. Site left tidy & safe		
<b>6. Prepare the site &amp; fell a damaged tree</b> - The candidate will have to fell a minimum of either a partially uprooted (half-blown) tree or tree with a broken top as chosen by the assessor:		
1. Trees inspected for signs of rot or decay, loose branches & accurate evaluation of weight distribution and selection of fuel storage	<b>c</b>	
2. Remove debris, branches, climbing vegetation, scrub and other obstructions from around the tree and compact vegetation to facilitate access		
3. Correct brushing technique if appropriate: position of the saw in relation to the operator, bar on opposite side of stem or out of line of head/neck and body		
4. Saw body not used above shoulder height	<b>c</b>	
5. Choice of felling direction made		

6. Escape routes prepared and selected	c	
7. A plan of operations is agreed where machinery is to be used to extract timber as windblown clearance progresses		<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Where a winch is being used: maintain safe working distances		<input type="checkbox"/>
Candidate to cut a sink to determine felling direction, using:		
1. Safe stance		
2. Top sink cut normally between 45-60°		
3. Bottom sink cut as close to ground as practicable		
4. Cuts 20-30% into stem unless RA dictates otherwise		
5. Sink cuts to meet accurately		
6. Sink facing in the chosen direction of fall	c	
7. Chain brake as appropriate		
8. Boring cut made if safe & appropriate into the middle of the sink at appropriate height, depth and width to remove centre of the tree		<input type="checkbox"/>
Candidate to make the main felling cut using:		
1. Safe stance		
2. Buttresses removed or "ears" cut at appropriate depth and height to avoid tearing as appropriate		
3. Main felling cut in line with or slightly above level of sink & use of plunge/boring-cuts as appropriate		
4. Final felling cut from tension side if appropriate		
5. Safe withdrawal of the saw		
6. Chain brake as appropriate		
7. A hinge retained no less than 10% tree diameter at felling height unless the RA dictates otherwise		
8. Site check for safety before the main felling cut completed & shout verbal warning		
9. Appropriate aid tools as required to assist felling		
10. Use a prepared escape route as soon as the tree begins to fall, not losing sight of tree	c	<input type="checkbox"/>

DATE & LOCATION:					
ASSESSMENT DURATION (min):					
CANDIDATE NAME (PRINT & sign):					
Candidate Comment					
OVERALL RESULT:	Competent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not Yet Competent	<input type="checkbox"/>	
GRADE(circle):	A+ (Excellent)	A (Very good)	B (Good)	C (Pass)	F (Fail)
ASSESSOR ID (PRINT & sign):					