

NHLS ASSESSOR GUIDE TEMPLATE

Marks for certificate level	<i>Bronze</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Gold</i>
<u>BUILD OF HEDGE APPROPRIATE FOR STYLE... NORTH SOMERSET</u>			
Marks available	20	20	20
Section pass mark	10	12	14
<p>Pleachers laying at appropriate angle. Stakes chosen suitable for the style and of correct quality. Stakes sharpened at the thick end and placed thick end in the ground. Stakes in a uniform correctly spaced pattern and on the correct line. Placed at the correct angle and trimmed to the correct height above the hedge. Stakes forming as straight a line as possible within the hedge as dictated by the style. Correctly and evenly spaced. Stakes cut off facing outwards covered by a pleach at an angle narrower on the top than the bottom of hedge. Very stock proof. Very good stake line.</p>	<p>PASS 20 - 16</p>	<p>PASS 20 - 16</p>	<p>PASS 20 - 18</p>
<p>Some stems laying too flat within the hedge. Pleaching good but not showing to front of hedge. Adequate spacing and at the correct angle for the style. Not all in a good straight line but holding the hedge firmly. Height of some stakes not consistent to style height or too low. Stakes well placed and firm but tops poorly removed. Average stake line. Two rows of stakes placed on alternate sides 1 Meter apart covered by a light covering of brush. Occasional stem used from outside of hedge line forming. Stakes not even or straight but firm and secure and of uneven height. Hedge could be cleaner with tidier secondary cutting. Occasional small gaps.</p>	<p>PASS 15-10</p>	<p>PASS 15 - 12</p>	<p>PASS 17 -15</p>
<p>Very irregular placement of stems, poor build. Poor cutting, no regularity to pleachers. Very irregular build, some stems laid off too far. Poor stake line. Some stakes not firm or straight , damaged tops , not holding hedge secure. Missed one or more pleach. Front of hedge poorly cleaned with poor secondary cutting. Little attempt to build a back of hedge. Many gaps along length. Some of the finer points why the finished hedge is not consistent being irregularly placed or non-existent pleachers. Allowance for use of dead wood if no live material is available in parts of the hedge.</p>	<p>FAIL 9 - 5</p>	<p>FAIL 11 – 6</p>	<p>FAIL 14-7</p>
<p>No understanding of correct build for style. Very poor pleaching and little attempt at secondary cutting. Overall poor build. Poor placing of stakes not straight not firm or holding hedge secure, general appearance uneven inconsistent. No trimming of front of hedge. No trimming of back of hedge. Many gaps. Very poor stake line.</p>	<p>FAIL 4 - 0</p>	<p>FAIL 5 – 0</p>	<p>FAIL 6 - 0</p>

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