
Qualification Specification

iBT2A8 - VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 2 Award in
Photographic Make-up

603/4068/X

About VTCT Skills

VTCT Skills is a market-leading specialist vocational and technical Awarding Organisation.

We offer a comprehensive range of qualifications, assessments and services in 17 sectors, including Hairdressing, Beauty, Logistics and Early Years. Working closely with employers and training providers, our ranges are backed by industry and trusted around the world.

With over 3,000 training locations, we help over 120,000 learners achieve professional skills that transform their lives, every year.

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Qualification at a glance

Qualification title	VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 2 Award in Photographic Make-up
Qualification number	603/4068/X
Product code	iBT2A8
First registration date	01/10/2019
Age range	16-18, 19+
Credit value	4
Total Qualification Time (TQT)	40
Guided Learning (GL) hours	30
Assessment	To be awarded this qualification, learners must successfully achieve the following assessments: • External practical examination • Portfolio of evidence containing - Assignment
Grading	Pass/Merit/Distinction
Entry requirements	It is the responsibility of the centre to ensure that learners have the required knowledge, understanding and skills to enrol and successfully achieve this qualification.

About this qualification

Aims and objectives

The main aim of the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 2 Award in Photographic Make-up is to enable learners to gain the necessary practical and theoretical skills in order to provide photographic make-up to the general public and to gain employment in the make-up industry. This qualification is suitable for learners aged 16 and over and is designed to provide occupational competence at level 2. It also provides a sound platform into further training at level 2 and 3.

Content

This qualification is for learners who want to work within the make-up industry. The qualification consists of 1 mandatory unit with a total of 30 hours of Guided Learning (GL) to achieve the full qualification.

The main skills the learner will perform are:

- Make-up application to include the understanding of face shapes, skin characteristics, fashion trends, cultural factors, effects of sunlight, planning make-up application – images, themes, colour, research, use of mood board

The learner will also develop knowledge about related health and safety and client care and communication which is essential to work and be successful in the make-up industry.

This qualification also provides:

- The related knowledge and understanding required to perform photographic make-up listed above as well as understanding the structures that the learner will be working over, in particular recognition of skin types and skin conditions and reasons that may affect whether a client should or should not be treated
- Opportunities for learners to focus on the development of their wider skills in a make-up setting, such as communicating with clients, working with others and problem solving
- Opportunities for learners to develop a range of skills, techniques, personal qualities and attitudes essential for successful performance in employment as a photographic make-up artist

Opportunities for progression

Once learners have achieved the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 2 Award in Photographic Make-up they may progress on to other VTCT Skills (ITEC) or equivalent qualifications at level 2 or 3 for example:

- Level 2 Diploma for Beauty Specialists
- Level 2 Diploma in Hair, Photographic and Media Make-up
- Level 2 Certificate in Bridal Make-up
- Level 3 Award in Apply Airbrush Make-up to the Face
- Level 3 Award in Asian Bridal Make-up
- Level 3 Diploma in Fashion, Theatre and Media Make-up
- Level 3 Diploma in Fashion and Photographic Make-up

Opportunities for employment

There are opportunities for the photographic make-up artist to find employment in a variety of areas:

- Make-up studios
- Beauty salons
- Cruise liners

Relationship to National Occupational Standards

This qualification has mapped to National Occupational Standards where they exist and has ensured that best practice in the workplace has been reflected in the qualification. This qualification is linked to the relative job roles as well as ensuring that the qualification reflects the required level of knowledge and ability for the photographic make-up artist at level 2.

Qualification structure

To be awarded the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 2 Award in Photographic Make-up, learners must achieve the mandatory unit.

The minimum GLH required to achieve this qualification is 30

The minimum TQT required to achieve this qualification is 40

Table 1

Unit code	Mandatory units	Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	Unit reference number
iUBT390	The art of photographic make-up	30	R/617/4331

Guided Learning Hours (GLH)

Guided Learning Hours is 'the activity of a learner in being taught or instructed by – or otherwise participating in education or training under the immediate guidance or supervision of – a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training'. This includes 'the activity of being assessed if the assessment takes place under the immediate guidance or supervision of a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training'.

Total Qualification Time (TQT)

Total Qualification Time is the number of notional hours which represents an estimate of the total amount of time that could reasonably be expected to be required, in order for a learner to achieve and demonstrate the achievement of the level of attainment necessary for the award of the qualification.

Assessment

All assignment, internal assessments, and underpinning knowledge must be completed prior to the final practical examination.

The final external practical examination will be carried out by the external examiner at the end of the period of learning. The external examiner will also verify a sample of the assignment and internal assessment.

Table 2

Unit code	Mandatory units	Assessment	Grading
iUBT390	The art of photographic make-up	Practical examination	Pass 60%-74% Merit 75%-89% Distinction 90-100%
		Portfolio of evidence – Assignment	Pass/Refer

Unit specifications and additional supporting material for this qualification can be found on the iTEC website.

Grading of the qualification

Learners must achieve a Pass grade or higher in the requisite number of units as specified in the rules of combination, see Table 1 above. Only mandatory units which are graded Pass/Merit/Distinction will contribute to the overall grade.

Practical examinations and theory examinations will be graded Pass/Merit/Distinction.

Portfolio of evidence containing the following will be graded Pass/Fail:

- Assignment

The overall qualification is graded Pass/Merit/Distinction.

Grade boundaries for units and the overall calculation for the qualification grade are open to annual review. Following this review, these boundaries and overall calculations can be adjusted by VTCT Skills. This review and possible change within a qualification are to ensure the standard of the qualification grade is upheld throughout the qualification's lifecycle.

Practical examination

Once all aspects of the mandatory units have been completed, learners will be expected to complete an internal mock practical assessment. This will be undertaken by the internal assessor/lecturer using the internal assessment forms. These must be handed to the external examiner on the day of the final external practical examination.

All practical assessments must be conducted in a controlled environment defined by VTCT Skills (ITEC). The practical examination will be conducted by an external examiner; however, the centre is responsible for ensuring the examination can operate seamlessly by organising the process as defined in the 'Instructions for Conducting Examinations' which can be found on the iTEC website. The marking criteria and marking scheme can be found under the documents tab within the qualification.

Portfolio of evidence

The assignment forms part of the internal assessment and should be assessed throughout the training by the lecturer using the appropriate forms.

The assessment form for the unit should be completed and placed with the relevant documentation for verification by the external examiner.

Quality assurance

Delivery of the qualification

A scheme of work must be approved by VTCT Skills for all units prior to the commencement of the course.

Lecturers should aim to deliver the theory and practical of each unit simultaneously, i.e., both theory and practical of each unit should be taught together to ensure the underpinning knowledge is being delivered at the same time as the practical skills. This will help to ensure that learners understand the structures they are working on as a result of combining delivery with the practical application of treatments.

Resources

The organisation delivering the qualification must provide a suitable environment for teaching the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 2 Award in Photographic Make-up as well as all equipment both fixed and free standing to complete all aspects of the qualification. Learners need to be made aware of the amount of consumables/towels they will be required to provide.

Achievement record

All units will require an Achievement Record to be completed by the lecturer for each learner. This achievement record will need to be kept by the centre and may be sampled by the external examiner or external quality assurer on their visit.

An Achievement Record for each unit can be downloaded from the VTCT Skills website.

Document History

Version	Issue Date	Changes	Role
v0.5	14/05/2019	Draft version published to inform centres prior to September launch.	Systems Integration Team
v1.0	10/09/2019	First published	Head of Qualifications and Processing
v2.0	03/12/2019	Grading boundary review statement added	Qualification Administrator
v3.0	01/09/2020	Added COVID-19 Infection Prevention pre-requisite	Product and Regulation Manager
V4.0	01/08/2022	Removed COVID-19 Infection Prevention pre-requisite	Product and Regulation Coordinator
V5.0	01/01/2025	New branding	Qualifications Administrator
v6.0	15/07/2026	Rebranding	Development Administrator