

Textiles Practical Skills Levels of Challenge

An introduction to the worksheet (see next page)

The table is designed for use in schools to help students and teachers identify appropriate techniques. It might be useful when students are designing their non exam assessment to ensure what they design and make has an appropriate level of challenge for the grade being targeted. Note, a technique will also need to be executed to a high standard in order for it to be assessed at a high grade.

The table shows the classifications of different practical skills in textiles as well as the level of challenge. Note that not all textiles techniques are included in the table and the list should be used as a guide only.

Levels of challenge are a suggestion only and are for guidance purposes.

There are lots of different versions of some techniques so some sections could be categorized even further e.g. different types of zips.

This sheet mainly refers to textiles techniques but the final section includes equipment and techniques that are not traditionally linked to textiles but which are now being increasingly used in a textiles context, particularly with the broader materials focus of the D&T GCSE.

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Seams	Open seam	Mock run and fell seam	Run and fell seam
	Closed seam	Piped seam	French seam
			Bound seam
			Taped/sealed/fused waterproof seams
Fastenings	Button	Machine buttonholes	Bound buttonholes
	Poppers / hooks & eyes	Hook & eye	Zips
	D rings & parachute clips	Eyelets	Covered button
	Velcro	Drawstring / casing	Rouleau loop buttonhole
Edge finishes	Machine stitched hem	Binding	Facing
	Overlocked edge	Blind hem (machine foot / by hand)	Lining
	Zigzagged edge		Cover seamer
			Rolled hem
Shaping	Darts	Gathers	Elastic sewn to fabric
	Tucks	Elastic in casing	Boning
	Pleats	Shirring	
Decorative techniques	Machine embroidery stitches	Raw edge appliqué	Reverse appliqué
	Sequins / beads	CAM embroidery (including designing)	Zigzag appliqué
	Dye pens, paints & crayons	Tie and dye	Shisha Work
	Block or stencil printing	Hand embroidery	Batik
	Heat tools e.g. rhinestone applicator, heat gun to melt & distress polymers	Quilting	Patchwork
	Laminating materials using Bondaweb	Transfer printing / sublimation printing	
Other textiles construction techniques	Using a commercial pattern	Adapting a commercial pattern	Flat pattern drafting or draping on the stand
	Topstitching	Piping	Collars & cuffs
	Kangaroo pocket	In seam pocket	Welt pocket
	Patch pocket	Hood	Sleeves
	Tassels & pompoms	Godets & other inserts	Waistband
Using fabrics	Medium weight, low fray woven fabrics	Satin / silky fabrics	Velvet, stripes, checks & other pile/nap fabrics
	Using interfacing	Knitted fabrics e.g. fleece, cotton interlock	High stretch knitted fabrics
			Lace/transparent fabrics
			Cutting on the bias
		Technical materials e.g. neoprene	
Fabric construction	Plain weave	Twill weave	More complex weaves e.g. satin, pile
	Embellisher machine	Dry felting	Wet felting
		Weft knitting	More complex knitting e.g. ribs & patterns
E-Textiles	Bought electronic part e.g. light/sound module	E-textiles circuit - 1 or more standard LED(s)	Soldering
	E-textiles circuit - 1 or more flat (PCB) LED(s)	Creating a simple e-textiles switch e.g. using poppers	More complex e-textiles switches e.g. soft switch
	Adding ready made switches to an e-textiles circuit e.g. push switch, tilt switch	Creating an e-textiles circuit with a basic buzzer	Microcontrollers & more complex outputs e.g. sensors, LED colours, sound, heat pad, motors
Other techniques	Basic hand tools e.g. hand drill	Injection moulding	Laser cutter
	Other basic tools e.g. tin snips, paper punch	Powered hand tools e.g. Dremel	3D printing e.g. directly onto fabric, buttons
		Non traditional materials e.g. stitching onto wood	