

Leaving Certificate Construction Studies



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Portfolio

Portfolio Headings: Your portfolio should have the following headings (each will be explained in detail later):

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Investigation/Research	Page 3-6
Development of Design Ideas – Possible Solutions	Page 7-10
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Cover Page

Leaving Certificate Year

3D Sketch or Photo of project

Name of Project

Exam No.

Contents Page

This should give the main headings of your portfolio and the pages they can be found upon.

Brief (4-5 sentences)

The design brief of the project you selected. For example if you had chosen a telephone table your brief may be as follows – A telephone table is a requirement in the majority of homes. Design and make a telephone table that is to be situated in the front hall of your house. Storage space for all items associated with the telephone must be included and all items must be easily accessible. As a considerable amount of time may be spent on the phone on occasion the seat should be designed as such.

Analysis of Brief (2 paragraphs)

Pick out the important parts of the brief you have set down.

Generally write two paragraphs that answer the following questions:

- What has your project to fulfil?
- What limitations will it have .i.e. size, shape etc.

Investigation / Research (3 to 5 pages)

Show evidence that you investigated what is currently available and how your project is going to be different from what is currently available (Include pictures – catalogues, furniture brochures, internet pictures – use Google).. Analyse what is currently available and select a few pictures of similar furniture and say what you like and dislike about them – mention any part that may be suited for your project i.e. the legs of this table were attractive and I may try to incorporate them in my design. Also show evidence that you compiled information such as the size it should be, shape etc. Finally include research into sizes of objects it has to hold.

Possible Solutions (3 to 4 pages)

You must include 3 to 4 different designs for the brief. (Generally 1 design to a page unless you are including a more than 4) Under each sketch make a list of good points and bad points about the design. Does it meet the brief, does it look well, what need to change etc. Your 4th or last design should be the best design and be the final design you choose.

Final Solution (1 Page)

Put your chosen solution on its own page after this. Give a brief explanation as to why it was the best design and draw a 3D sketch of it.

Materials (1/2 page)

Suggest a series of materials and explain why the material you chose is most suitable.

Joining Methods (1/2 to 1 page)

Include a page discussing the joining techniques you think are most appropriate and why. Include pics or sketches.

Working Drawing (1 A3 or A2 page – sketches can be included on A4 pages)

A working drawing must be submitted in your portfolio. This drawing should include a front view and plan. This drawing must be scaled and include all the main measurements of your project. They should be submitted on A3 or A2 pages. 2D and 3D sketches to show how your project looks and works may also be submitted in this section.

Cutting List (1 page)

This should include a list of all the pieces, their width, length and thickness and the material.

Making Of Project (3 Pages)

Explain how you made your project, the various procedures you went through, the problems you encountered, how you overcame them etc.

Evaluation (1 Page)

Explain what was good or worked well in your project. Then explain what didn't work out and how you would change your project if you were to make it again. As this is the first project you made you should consider it as a prototype that will inevitably have some flaws so don't be afraid to point out areas you would change.

Finally explain how well your project met the brief you set down.

Conclusion (1 Page)

What you learned in your project.

What new tools you learned to use.

What techniques you are now competent in.

Is there anything you appreciate more about woodwork?

Other information that may be suitable

Extra headings may be included if you see them as important. This would include information on the safety aspects you adhered to, the tools used (do not include excessive amount of pictures), the finish selected, the amount of time spent on each section, what skills you learned etc.

Experiments

The experimental work must be related to the project you submit. Three experiments should be undertaken and recorded for assessment.