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## Overview

This standard is about preparing the site and the equipment you need for digging a grave and carrying out excavation in preparation for burial.

All operations must be carried out with due regard to relevant legislation and industry codes of practice.

If you are working with machinery you need to be appropriately trained or certificated in line with current legislation

### Performance criteria

#### You must be able to:

- P1 locate the plot using the information provided
- P2 assess the risks associated with the site and the required activity
- P3 select tools and equipment appropriate to the type of internment plot and soil conditions
- P4 prepare, use and maintain equipment and machinery in accordance with specifications
- P5 mark and set out in accordance with specifications
- P6 excavate the ground and remove excess soil in accordance with specifications
- P7 adhere to safe working practices when digging graves
- P8 carry out work in a manner which prevents damage to the surrounding area
- P9 keep the grave site tidy and safe and your equipment secure when unattended
- P10 complete work in good time for the burial
- P11 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and company policies

**Knowledge and understanding**

**You need to know and understand:**

- K1 how to locate plots
- K2 how to identify hazards and assess risks
- K3 how to select tools and equipment appropriate to the types of plots and soil conditions
- K4 how to prepare, use and maintain equipment and machinery for excavation of ground and removal of excess soil safely and affectively
- K5 the importance of completing the activity in accordance with specifications
- K6 regulations and codes of practice relating to the work
- K7 how to mark and set out according to specifications
- K8 the purpose and use of different types of shoring
- K9 how to position and secure escape ladders
- K10 the role and duties of the banks person
- K11 why it is important to leave the grave in a tidy and safe condition and secure equipment when unattended
- K12 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and company policies

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## Glossary

### Soil conditions:

- wet
- dry
- clay
- sand/shingle
- made up ground

### Specifications:

- drawings
- schedules
- method statements
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- manufacturers' guidelines

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Relevant occupations Gravedigger

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