



Trade Testing in Silversmith- Assessment Criteria

Competence: Silversmith

Level: Craftsman

A competent Silversmith should be able to demonstrate the following knowledge, skills and competences:

Basic Techniques

Alloying and melting of precious metals.
Use of hand tools and basic machinery.
Soldering techniques.
Finishing and polishing techniques.

Specific Techniques

Electrolysis process.
Repuosse, chasing and spinning.
Hand engraving.

Other Skills, Knowledge and Techniques

Patination and enamelling.
Refining process.
Health and safety.
Laws and regulations.

Interview

During the interview the candidate will be assessed upon the following competencies:

- Use and care of hand tools and power tools.
- Principles of construction, operation and maintenance of common machines for jewellery making.
- Principles of alloying precious metals.
- Converting weights and temperatures, calculating length of ring shanks, bangles, etc.
- Hammering, sawing, filing, melting, soldering, chasing, repousse, engraving, and carving techniques.
- Health and Safety standards and precautions.
- Laws and Regulations of the Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Act.
- Work experience.

The candidate is required to bring a CV, a portfolio of his/her work and an appropriate design of the final jewellery piece to be produced for the Practical Examination.

Theory

Duration: 1.5 hours

Section A: 50 Questions Multiple Choice – 1 mark each.

Section B: 3 Questions Paragraph Format- 50 marks.

Section A focuses on:

Materials

Hand tools

Electrical Tools

Mechanical Tools

Process

Health & Safety

Stone setting techniques

Principles of alloying precious metals

Different finishing's of precious metals

Melting Points

Laws and Regulations: Goldsmiths and

Silversmiths Act.

Grades and making of solder.

Section B focuses on:

Health and Safety.

Principles of Alloying Precious Metals

Laws and regulations of Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Act

Practical

The duration of the practical test is of around 18 hours and will be spread over 3 days.

Starting from the initial stage of melting the candidate will be required to produce a finished item of his choice according to agreement with the board during the Interview. The candidate will be assessed on the quality of the finished product, methods and techniques used and health & safety awareness.

The candidate will be awarded the *Certificate of Competence as a Silversmith at Craftsman Level* if a pass mark in all components is achieved.