







# Participant Handbook

# **Furniture and Fittings**

Sub-Sector Modular Furniture

Occupation

Production-Modular Furniture

Reference ID: FFS/Q5103, Version 1.0

**NSQF Level 4** 



Lead Assembler Modular Furniture

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Shri Narendra Modi Prime Minister of India







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#### **SKILLING CONTENT: PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK**

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The preparation of this handbook would not have been possible without the Furniture & Fittings Industry's support. Industry feedback has been extremely encouraging from inception to conclusion and it is with their input that we have tried to bridge the skill gaps existing today in the industry.

This participant handbook is dedicated to the aspiring youth who desire to achieve special skills which will be a lifelong asset for their future endeavours.

### **About this book**

This Participant Handbook is designed for providing skill training and /or upgrading the knowledge level of the Trainees to take up the job of an "Lead Assembler Modular Furniture (Option: Lock Installer)" in the Furniture & Fittings Sector.

This Participant Handbook is designed based on the Qualification Pack (QP) under the National Skill Qualification framework (NSQF) and it comprises of the following National Occupational Standards (NOS)/topics and additional topics.

- (FFS/N5103) Assembling and installation of different parts of the modular furniture
- (FFS/N8601) Ensure health and safety at workplace
- (FFS/N8501) Maintain work area tools and machines
- (FFS/N8801) work effectively with others
- (FFS/N5703) Carry out lock installation activities
- (FFS/N5704) Perform lock repairing and servicing

# **Symbols Used**



Key Learning Outcomes



Activity



Summary



Tips



Notes



Unit Objectives

### **Table of Contents**

S.No	Modules and Units	Page No
1.	Introduction	1
	Unit 1.1 Discussing the Furniture & Fittings Sector in India	3
	Unit 1.2 Common Furniture Styles	5
	Unit 1.3 Defining the Modular Design of Furniture	12
2.	Discussing the Job Description of the Lead Assembler Modular Furniture (FFS/N5103)	17
	Unit 2.1 Discussing the Job Description of the Lead Assembler Modular Furniture	19
	Unit 2.2 Skills Required and Personal Attributes Expected in a Lead Assembler Modular Furniture	21
3.	Identifying the Various Types of Furniture Accessories, Fittings, Joinery, and Estimating the Quantities Required (FFS/N5103)	25
	Unit 3.1 Types of Joinery	27
	Unit 3.2 Technique of Touch Up, Sanding, Polishing Furniture for Proper Finishing, if Needed	32
	Unit 3.3 Get Requisite Approval on the Cost Budget and Timelines before Work Initiation	42
4.	Understanding Site Measurements (FFS/N5103)	47
	Unit 4.1 The Process of Site Measurement For Project Level Work	49
	Unit 4.2 Measurement of Length, Width & Depth in MKS & FPS System, Its Application, Undertake Measuring Accurately	56
5.	Assembling and Installation of Different Parts of Modular Furniture (FFS/N5103)	65
	Unit 5.1 Definition and Types of Modular Furniture	67
	Unit 5.2 Different Layouts of Modular Furniture Location	71
	Unit 5.3 Different Process Involved In Assembling and Installation of Products and Various Appropriate Fittings	82
	Unit 5.4 Different Types of Tools and Equipment And the Processes of Operating the Same	103
6.	Common Issues, Troubleshooting Knowledge and Method of Conducting Visual Inspection (FFS/N8501)	123
	Unit 6.1 Common Issues Troubleshooting Knowledge	125
	Unit 6.2 Method of Conducting Visual Inspection for any Errors or Damages to the Cut Components	130



























S.No	Modules and Units	Page No
7.	Maintain work area tools and machines (FFS/N8501)	135
	Unit 7.1 Follow Safe Working Practices While at Work	137
	Unit 7.2 Organizational Procedures for Safe Handling of Tools and Equipment	139
	Unit 7.3 How to Respond to an Emergency Situation	143
	Unit 7.4 Organizational Reporting Protocol	148
	Unit 7.5 Various Types of Safety Signs and What They Mean	151
	Unit 7.6 Deal With an Accident Which Involves Human Life	161
	Unit 7.7 Different Types of Personal Protective Gear and Their Usage	162
	Unit 7.8 Appropriate Basic First Aid Treatment Relevant to the Condition	166
	Unit 7.9 Preventative and Remedial Actions to be Taken in the Case of Exposure to	
	Toxic Materials	171
	Unit 7.10 Maintain Appropriate Environment to Protect Stock from Pilfering, Theft,	
	Damage and Deterioration	173
8.	Understanding the Organisational Context	179
	Unit 8.1 Understand the Meaning of Organizational Context for the Job Role	181
	Unit 8.2 Understand the Organizational Context While Assembling and Installing Modular Furniture	183
	Unit 8.3 Understand the Organizational Context While Ensuring Health and Safety at Workplace	187
	Unit 8.4 Understand the Organizational Context While Maintaining the Work Area, Tools and Machines	188
	Unit 8.5 Understand the Organizational Context While Working Effectively with Others	189
	Unit 8.6 Escalation Hierarchy	190
9.	Safe Lifting Practices and Ergonomics (FFS/N8601)	195
	Unit 9.1 Safe Lifting Practices	197
	Unit 9.2 Correct Body Postures	199
	Unit 9.3 Correct Lifting, Loading and Unloading and Handling Procedures	203
10.	Safe Cleaning and Waste Management Practices (FFS/N8501)	209
	Unit 10.1 Importance of Good Housekeeping	211
	Unit 10.2 Different Types of Cleaning Equipment & Substances and their Use	214
	Unit 10.3 Safe Working Practices for Cleaning and the Method of Carrying Them Out	217
	Unit 10.4 Common Types of Waste and Contaminants in Workplace	221
	Unit 10.5 Effects of Contamination on Products	224
	Unit 10.6 Different Ways of Minimizing Waste	225
	Unit 10.7 Know-how of Cleaning Process and Waste Disposal Procedures	227



























S.No	Modules and Units	Page No
11.	Ensure Health and Safety at Workplace (FFS/N8601)	233
	Unit 11.1 Common Health and Safety Hazards in a Work Environment and	
	Related Precautions	235
	Unit 11.2 Potential Risks and Threats	242
	Unit 11.3 Potential Hazards and Risks Which May Be Present at Furniture &	
	Fittings Related Workplace	245
	Unit 11.4 Storage and Handling of Hazardous Substances	249
	Unit 11.5 Common Health and Safety Practices at Workplace	252
	Unit 11.6 Different Risks Associated with the Use of Electrical Equipment	257
12.	Fighting Fire (FFS/N8601)	265
	Unit 12.1 Various Causes of Fire	267
	Unit 12.2 Different Types of Fire Extinguishers and their Use	271
	Unit 12.3 Techniques of Using the Different Fire Extinguishers	273
13.	Work effectively with others (FFS/N8801)	279
	Unit 13.1 Work Effectively with Others	281
	Unit 13.2 Importance of Effective Communication and Establishing Good Working	
	Relationships with Other	277
	Unit 13.3 Prepare and Organize Work	291
	Unit 13.4 Decision Making	300
	Unit 13.5 Problem Solving	302
	Unit 13.6 Manage Anger and Stress	304
	Unit 13.7 Manage Time	306
	Unit 13.8 Set Goals for Oneself and the Team	309
	Unit 13.9 Understanding Technical Drawings and Blueprints	310
Lock Ir	nstaller	329
1.0	Course Out Lock Installation Astinition (FFC (NF 703)	224
14.	Carry Out Lock Installation Activities (FFS/N5703) Unit 14.1 The Job Description of the Lock Installer	<b>331</b>
	·	333 334
	Unit 14.2 Main Types of Locks and Units Assembled Unit 14.3 Functioning And Types Of Various Doors/Windows	341
	Unit 14.4 Different Tools and Equipment	345
	Unit 14.5 Technique Of Fixing The Lock On The Door	361
	Office 14.3 reclinique of Fixing the Lock of the Door	301
15.	Perform Lock Repairing and Servicing (FFS/N5704)	403
	Unit 15.1 Process of Operating Different Locks	405
	Unit 15.2 Method to Check Warranty of Lock	407
	Unit 15.3 Troubleshooting for Lock Installers	410
	Unit 15.4 Handling and Storage of Different Tools and Equipment	432
	Unit 15.5 Quality Assurance for Lock Installer	439
	Unit 15.6 Waste Disposal, Cleaning and Maintenance	442



























S.No	Modules and Units	Page No
16.	Employability and Entrepreneurship Skills	445
	Unit 16.1 Personal Strength & Value System	449
	Unit 16.2 Digital Literacy: A Recap	468
	Unit 16.3 Money Matters	473
	Unit 16.4 Preparing for Employment & Self Employment	484
	Unit 16.5 Understanding Entrepreneurship	493
	Unit 16.6 Prenaring to be an Entrepreneur	520





































# 1. Introduction

Unit 1.1 Introducing the Furniture & Fittings Sector in India

Unit 1.2 Common Furniture Styles

Unit 1.3 Defining Modular Design of Furniture



# - Key Learning Outcomes 🙄



#### At the end of this module, you will be able to:

- 1. Discuss the Furniture & Fittings sector in India
- 2. Discuss the common furniture styles
- 3. Define the Modular Design of Furniture

# Unit 1.1 Discussing the Furniture & Fittings Sector in India

# - Unit Objectives



#### At the end of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Discuss an overview of the Furniture & Fittings sector in India

#### An Overview of the Furniture & Fittings sector in India

Currently, India is the 14th largest market in the world for the Furniture and Fittings sector, as stated by HKTDC Research. The Indian middle-class population and business organizations are gradually recovering from the temporary market decline, which was driven by recent economic reforms and measures like Demonetization, introduction of the GST (Goods and Services Tax) and advent of the Long Term Capital Gains Tax.

The GDP (Gross Domestic Product) of India, for the fiscal year 2018-19, has been forecasted to grow by 7-7.5% by the Economic Survey of India (2017-18). This can be attributed to the rise of per capita income level and the subsequent growth in consumption by the urban and semi-urban middle-class population. The choice and consumption of middle-class population in India are now driven by need, quality and convenience, rather than affordable prices. Middle-class households are now interested in enhancing their lifestyle standards by decorating their homes with modern and chic furniture, fixtures and fittings. The Furniture & Fittings sector in India has been forecasted, by TechSci Research, to beat INR 3200 crores by 2019.

Apart from the rising consumption of middle-class households, expansion of the Tourism and Hospitality sector would also substantially contribute towards the mammoth growth of the Furniture & Fittings sector. According to recent reports by KPMG India, the current Furniture & Fittings sector in India comprises the following segments:

- 85% Unorganized
- 15% Organized

The key market players contributing towards the 15% organized chunk are:



Fig. 1.1.1: Key market players in India for Modular Furniture

- On the basis of the area of applicability, the major subsectors in the Indian Furniture & Fittings sector are:
  - O Home Furniture segment (comprises furniture used to furnish and decorate Indian homes)
  - O Office Furniture segment (comprises furniture used in commercial spaces)
  - O Contract segment (caters to the need of Tourism & Hospitality industry)

Notes 🗐 —		

# **Unit 1.2 Common Furniture Styles**

# – Unit Objectives 🧖



#### At the end of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Identify and learn about the common furniture styles

### **Common Furniture Styles**

The common styles of furniture are:

#### A. Before the 20th Century:

Style	Characteristics	Images
Jacobean	<ul> <li>Geometric, symmetrical design and strong emphasis on rectilinear lines and shapes</li> <li>Ornate carvings, influenced by the Classical era and detailed geometric motifs</li> <li>Physically and visually heavy</li> <li>Very close to the ground level</li> </ul>	
William and Mary	<ul> <li>Replaced the orthogonal, rectilinear         Jacobean style with soft curves and         graceful spirals</li> <li>Physically lighter and sleeker, as compared         to the Jacobean style</li> <li>Visually disconnected from and higher off         the ground</li> <li>Implemented Dovetails joints to         incorporate softer features in furniture</li> </ul>	
Queen Anne	<ul> <li>Geometric, symmetrical design and strong emphasis on rectilinear lines and shapes</li> <li>Ornate carvings, influenced by the Classical era and detailed geometric motifs</li> <li>Physically and visually heavy</li> <li>Very close to the ground level</li> </ul>	

Style	Characteristics	Image
Pennsylvania Dutch	<ul> <li>Influenced by American and German culture</li> <li>Straightforward and utilitarian style</li> <li>Incorporated straight lines and tapered legs</li> <li>Less use of ornate curves</li> <li>Decorated with colourful folk painting on the cases, generally depicting natural sceneries or geometric patterns</li> <li>Often polished, finished and varnished with veneer (thin, decorative piece of fine wood)</li> </ul>	
Chippendale	<ul> <li>Pioneered by English cabinet-maker Thomas Chippendale</li> <li>Highly elegant and classy, this style incorporates the important features of Gothic, Chinese and Rococo influence</li> <li>Pointed arches, wooded lattice and S-shaped curves were adopted from the Gothic culture</li> <li>Fretwork design and Jappaning were adopted from the Chinese culture</li> <li>Rococo influence brought about designs like broad chair seats, decorated with interlacing ribbon backs</li> <li>Stained Maple was used, instead of Mahogany, Walnut and Cherry Wood, in order to reduce cost</li> <li>Such furniture were often finished with clear wax coating</li> <li>Easily recognized from designs like the Balland-Claw foot and Chair backs decorated with ribbon and shell motifs</li> </ul>	
Hepplewhite	<ul> <li>Pioneered by English designer George Hepplewhite</li> <li>Very graceful and influenced by the Neoclassical style</li> <li>Delicate appearance due to extensive use of veneers with contrasting colours (Marquetry)</li> <li>Presence of decorative motifs like elegant swags, tapered legs, curling ribbons, feathers, urns, trees, etc.</li> <li>Use of narrow vertical strips of wood glued to a heavy background clot called 'Tambours'</li> <li>Incorporates simple geometric shapes like circle and primary curves</li> </ul>	

Style	Characteristics	Image
Sheraton	<ul> <li>Marked with the use of thinner legs</li> <li>Visually lighter as compared to other styles</li> <li>Characterized with Rectangular Chair and Sofa backs</li> <li>Characterized with Cabinets and dressers with rectilinear features</li> <li>Flaunts the presence of ornate and delicate lines and contrasting veneers, influenced by the Neoclassical style</li> <li>The legs are usually tapered, often resembling columns of a Greek temple in appearance</li> </ul>	
Federal	<ul> <li>Incorporates the borderline features of the Sheraton and the Hepplewhite styles</li> <li>Depicts strong use of ornate inlay, tapered legs, straight lines and delicate feature</li> </ul>	
American Empire	<ul> <li>Characterized by traditional ornamentation, rustic decoration and dark finish</li> <li>Depicts a strong presence of Roman and Greek motifs</li> <li>Visually heavy, thus communicating strength and durability</li> <li>Highly decorated, to depict prosperity</li> </ul>	
Victorian	<ul> <li>This style was greatly influenced by Queen Victoria's love for heavy, ornate decoration</li> <li>This style primarily includes a mixture of the Gothic, Neoclassical and Rococo features</li> <li>Usually characterized by dark pieces of furniture, heavy fabrics and chinaware and glassware as accessories</li> </ul>	

Style	Characteristics	Image
Scandinavian Contemporary	<ul> <li>Involves basic, utilitarian style</li> <li>Primarily built out of natural wood</li> <li>Influenced by less ornate details</li> <li>Defined strongly by modern, clean, solid pieces</li> <li>Designed to occupy less space, in a clutter-free manner</li> </ul>	ANA I
Arts and Crafts Movement	<ul> <li>Rectilinear style, often characterized with occasional vertical and elongated features</li> <li>Incorporated hand finish during the final stages of production</li> <li>In general, minimal decoration is done, so that the emphasis is on the natural look and craftsmanship</li> <li>This style is simple and utilitarian</li> </ul>	

### B. Post 20<sup>th</sup> Century:

- **O** Antique
- **O** Traditional
- **O** Vintage
- O Rustic
- O Art Deco
- O Retro
- O Modern
- **O** Contemporary
- O Modular

Style	Characteristics	Image
Antique	<ul> <li>A piece of furniture is considered "Antique", if it is at least 100 years old</li> <li>Generally built out of wood</li> <li>Antique furniture comprises ornate details and specific motifs that help in determining their date of origin and thus, their prices</li> </ul>	

Style	Characteristics	Image
Traditional	<ul> <li>This style incorporates the best features of styles like Queen Anne, Chippendale and Sheraton</li> <li>Significant features are the elegant ornamentation, straight lines and gently tapered legs</li> </ul>	
Vintage	<ul> <li>Younger in age as compared to Antique, this style of furniture flaunts the most prominent features of a particular detail associated with a certain period</li> <li>Incorporates a very charming, delicate, lightweight style</li> <li>Wood is painted in light pastel colours like Wool White, Beryl Green, Santa's Gray, Mauve, Oriental Pink, etc.</li> </ul>	
Rustic	<ul> <li>Emphasizes on homespun, worn out, handcrafted or natural materials</li> <li>Typical building materials comprise wood, reclaimed timber, stone, bamboo, etc.</li> <li>Characterized by warmth, cosiness and homely feeling</li> <li>Other materials include Hide, Cotton and Linen</li> </ul>	
Art Deco	<ul> <li>Characterized by geometric and angular patterns</li> <li>Typical examples of such patterns are ziggurats, pyramidal, triangular, trapezoidal, zigzagged, chevron, sunburst, sweeping curves, stepped forms, etc.</li> <li>Harmonizes jazzy patterns with materials like glass, chrome, mirrors, etc.</li> </ul>	

Style	Characteristics	Image
Retro	<ul> <li>This style bears the look of having been built between the 1950s and the 1980s</li> <li>This style simply imitates previous fashion trends</li> <li>Evokes nostalgic feelings and memories related to a particular era or place</li> </ul>	
Modern	<ul> <li>Characterized by smooth surfaces, minimal decoration, standardized dimensions, neutral design and combination of different materials in an ad hoc manner</li> <li>Common materials are Steel, Vinyl, Plastic and Leather</li> <li>However, the use of natural materials is predominant</li> <li>Prominent use of monochromatic colour palettes</li> <li>Marked by a balance between aesthetics, utility and affordability</li> </ul>	
Contemporary	<ul> <li>This style is ever-changing and adapts itself with time</li> <li>Contemporary style pertains to the style most popular nowadays</li> <li>Although referred to synonymously, the Contemporary style is completely different from the modern style of furniture</li> <li>The Modern style refers to a particular era (1900s), while the Contemporary style walks hand-in-hand with the changing time</li> </ul>	
Modular	<ul> <li>Specific form of portable furniture aimed at saving space</li> <li>Highly utilitarian and cost-effective</li> <li>Divided into numerous small and solid units, which can be connected horizontally, vertically and matrixwise, using a simple series of steps</li> <li>All small parts or "modules" in a system are reusable and scalable</li> </ul>	

otes 📃 _	 		

# **Unit 1.3 Defining the Modular Design of Furniture**

# - Unit Objectives



#### At the end of this unit, you will be able to:

- 1. Define and explain Modularity
- 2. Recall the characteristics of Modular Furniture
- 3. Classify Modular Furniture according to design

# 1.3.1 Defining and Explaining Modularity

**Modularity** is an approach of designing furniture, which involves subdividing a system into numerous small building blocks, or elementary components, commonly known as "**modules**" or "**skids**". These elementary modules, building blocks or skids can be autonomously created for developing various systems. In simple words, Modularity enables us to develop and administer a system by the "divide and rule" policy.

The procedure, in which a system can be broken down or subdivided into modules, is called "Functional Allocation". Modular furniture can not only be assembled from small modules but also be dismantled into them, thus making repeated assembly and disassembly possible. For re-assembling specific pieces of furniture (say, modular bed), entire sets of modules are available and sold in the market in the form of prefilled packages. Modularity is a popular concept applicable not only in building furniture but also in the following areas:

- Architecture
- Designing and building Heavy Vehicles
- Aerodynamics
- · Building Heavy Machinery
- · Manufacturing Computer Hardware
- Developing and testing Software using OOPS (Object-oriented Programming System)concept

## 1.3.2 Characteristics of Modular Furniture

 $Modular \, Furniture \, and \, their \, components \, exhibit \, the \, following \, characteristics: \,$ 

- **1. Reusability -** The same modules can be arranged and built up according to various designs or matrices for developing diverse types of furniture.
- **2. Discreteness -** Individual modules or skids have autonomous properties and are functionally distinct from the other modules in the matrix.
- **3. Adaptability** An existing modular design can be broken down into its modules, which can be reconstructed into another modular design, serving a different purpose.
- **4. Scalability** A modular design is scalable, i.e., its size, shape and dimensions can be varied by rearranging, increasing or decreasing (as per requirement) the number of modules used in building it.
- **5. Simplicity** As the term suggests, modular designs are very simple to understand and easy to build. This is because, the first step in building a design is to understand the individual, small building blocks.

- **6. Reliability -** Modular designs are very precise, accurate and highly reliable. This is because, each design is created and built using discrete modules, which are precise in terms of individual dimensions, make and specifications.
- **7. Cost Minimization and Space Utilization** Modularity helps in reducing training, operational (assembling, installing and dismantling) and maintenance costs. The very purpose behind modularity is space management.

# 1.3.3 Classifying Modular Furniture According to Design

According to design, Modular Furniture can be classified into the following:

- Single-bodied
- Multi-bodied
- Universal for completion
- On a frame
- · For hanging

Notes			

# Summary



- India is the 14th largest market in the world for the Furniture and Fittings sector, as stated by HKTDC Research.
- The Indian middle-class population and business organizations are gradually recovering from the temporary market decline.
- The GDP (Gross Domestic Product) of India, for the fiscal year 2018-19, has been forecasted to grow by 7-7.5% by the Economic Survey of India (2017-18).
- Middle-class households are now interested in enhancing their lifestyle standards by decorating their homes with modern and chic furniture, fixtures and fittings.
- The Furniture & Fittings sector in India has been forecasted, by TechSci Research, to beat INR 3200 crores by 2019.
- According to recent reports by KPMG India, the current Furniture & Fittings sector in India comprises the following segments:
  - O 85% Unorganized
  - O 15% Organized
- Furniture styles can be broadly categorized into: Before and After the 20th Century
- Modularity is an approach of designing furniture, which involves subdividing a system into numerous small building blocks
- Modular Furniture can be classified according to the design.

# **Activity**



- The trainer asks students to play a "Word Game", where they will have to speak out words about Furniture and Fittings, as and when they appear in their minds.
- The trainer asks students to name few places at home and office, where modular furniture are widely used.
- The trainer, from his/her laptop, shows few ppt slides and asks the students to identify the furniture styles and the era that they belong to.

### Exercise



### Match the Furniture Styles with the Features:

Furniture Style	Feature		
Queen Anne	Fretwork design and Jappaning were adopted from the Chinese culture	[	]
Chippendale	Emphasizes on homespun, worn out, handcrafted or natural materials	[	]
Sheraton	Prominent use of monochromatic colour palettes	[	]
Rustic	Very close to the ground level	[	]
Modern	Evokes nostalgic feelings and memories related to a particular era or place	[	]
Retro	Decorated with colourful folk painting on the cases, generally depicting natural sceneries or geometric patterns	[	]
Art Deco	Incorporated the use of comfortable cushions and winged backs on chairs and lounges	[	]
Modular	Divided into numerous small and solid units, which can be con-nected horizontally, vertically and matrixwise, using a simple series of steps	[	1
Jacobean	Harmonizes jazzy, geometric and angular patterns with materi-als like glass, chrome, mirrors, etc.	[	]
Pennsylvania Dutch	The legs are usually tapered, often resembling columns of a Greek temple in appearance	[	]