Assessment Specifications

# Level 2 Design and Visual Communication 2025

Published in October 2024

## General information

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| **Domain:** | Design and Visual Communication |
| **Standards:** | 91337, 91338, 91339 |
| **Assessment method:** | Portfolio |
| **Assessment medium:** | Digital or physical submission |
| **Assessment event scheduling**: | School-scheduled within NZQA-defined period |
| **Final date for submission**: | 30 October 2025 |

Design and Visual Communication subject page

National secondary examinations timetable

## Information relating to all achievement standards

Assessment will be in the form of a portfolio of evidence for each standard.

A portfolio is an organised collection of selected evidence that communicates the candidate's knowledge and understanding relevant to the external achievement standard the candidate has entered. For each standard, **candidates should select only the material that represents their best work** for that standard to include in the portfolio.

Candidates must develop their ideas within the context of a design brief. Design briefs may focus on (but are not limited to):

- spatial design – architectural or environmental design
- product design – engineering or technological design.

The design ideas must have identifiable functional and aesthetic qualities.

Work submitted for each standard must show design ideas that are student-generated responses to a design brief. Classroom exercises should not be included in the work to be assessed.

Submission may be physical or digital for all standards.

For further information on submission please read the Submission Requirements below.

## Conditions of assessment

Evidence must be produced during the 2025 school year and curated prior to submission.

The use of chatbots, generative AI, paraphrasing tools, or other tools that can automatically generate content is not permitted and material generated by these tools should not be submitted as part of the candidate's work. **CAD applications may be used.**

Any material from another source appropriately included within a candidate's portfolio must be acknowledged clearly.

## Authenticity

Teachers must closely supervise the process of evidence collection to ensure that candidates:

- do not copy from another person or source without appropriate acknowledgement
- do not receive guidance, scaffolding, instruction, assistance, or assessment conditions beyond what is specified as permissible in these Assessment Specifications.

Where a teacher cannot verify that the assessment submitted is the authentic work of the candidate, they must notify NZQA of a possible Candidate Breach of External Assessment.

## Submission requirements

Evidence may be submitted as digital or physical portfolios for 2025.

**Digital submissions** may consist of the following filetypes:

- document (PDF)
- image (JPG, JPEG)
- video (MP4).

Note that only these file types may be submitted, and that other file types may not be able to be marked.

PDF and MP4 are the recommended file types. MP4 files should not exceed 3 minutes.

Digital submissions should be submitted using the MyNZQA digital portal. More information is available on the NZQA website:

[Digital submissions](#)

Schools are required to securely store a back-up copy (or originals) of all digital submissions.

**Physical submissions** can be up to a maximum size of A3 (297 x 420mm). Larger pages must be folded to A3 size. Where mock-ups, prototypes, and models have been used, photographic evidence of these may assist the presentation. Original copies should be presented for assessment if submitting physical portfolios.

The only work that may be submitted on CD ROM/DVD is an animated presentation or video that is part of a physical submission.

The following are **not acceptable:**

- visual diaries
- submission material contained in clear files

- laminated materials
- additional packaging, e.g. boxes
- models – only photographs are to be submitted
- submission material on USB flash drives or MP3 players.

Refer also to other resources on the subject page of the NZQA website.

Further submission instructions and authenticity requirements will be provided for schools in 2025.

## Special assessment conditions

Refer to the NZQA website for further information:

Aromatawai special assessment conditions

# Specific information for individual achievement standards

| | |
|---|---|
| **Standard:** | 91337 |
| **Title:** | Use visual communication techniques to generate design ideas |
| **Version:** | 3 |
| **Number of credits:** | 3 |

A candidate's portfolio should **not exceed 20 pages** for this standard.

Candidates will need to select evidence that demonstrates they can use visual communication techniques to explore the functional and aesthetic qualities of the design to generate design possibilities.

Evidence for this achievement standard can be in any visual communication mode, including freehand sketching. Computer-generated drawings are an example of visual communication and can, therefore, be included in this achievement standard.

It is not a requirement to produce annotations (design judgments) to support the visual communication techniques, but these may help and support design ideas.

Refer also to other resources on the subject page of NZQA website.

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| **Standard:** | 91338 |
| **Title:** | Produce working drawings to communicate technical details of a design |
| **Version:** | 3 |
| **Number of credits:** | 4 |

A candidate's portfolio should **not exceed 7 pages** for this standard.

Candidates will be required to produce two-dimensional instrumental working drawings that show their own design decisions.

Candidates will be required to produce a set of related drawings, using conventions to show complex information.

A set of related drawings refers to multiple drawings that communicate details of a design's shape and form.

Complex information could include information not visible in the main outline, multi-component assembly detail, and complex shape and form.

Evidence for this achievement standard can be generated using either traditional drawing equipment or computer applications.

Refer also to other resources on the subject page of NZQA website.

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| **Standard:** | 91339 |
| **Title:** | Produce instrumental perspective projection drawings to communicate design ideas |
| **Version:** | 3 |
| **Number of credits:** | 3 |

A candidate's portfolio should **not exceed 5 pages** for this standard.

Candidates will be required to produce instrumental perspective projection drawings that show their own design decisions.

Candidates will be required to produce a parallel perspective projection and/or angular perspective projection, and to apply appropriate construction, including: use of picture plane; station point; eye-level lines; ground-level lines; vanishing points; and height lines, including the set-up of the plan and elevations to indicate proof of heights.

Evidence for this achievement standard can be generated using either traditional drawing equipment or computer applications.