

Felling Small Trees up to 380mm including Takedown of Hung-up Trees Using Hand Tools



Course Objectives:

To enable course members to:

- Correctly assess the situation prior to free felling a straight open grown tree up to a maximum of 380mm diameter, and with the aid of wedges and/or a felling lever, fell it in a chosen direction
- Remove limbs from felled trees and cross cut, handle and stack timber in a safe and efficient manner
- Identify types of timber, potential hazards and stresses, correctly assess if timber is in compression or tension, and select the appropriate technique to deal with the particular situation
- Take down hung up trees using hand tools
- Recognise situations where specialist help is required

NB: In undertaking the above objectives, the operator should wear the correct protective clothing, and be standing on firm ground. The chainsaw should never be operated above shoulder height.

Who is the course designed for?

This course is for novice operators with little or no experience of chainsaw felling, who are required to operate chainsaws for felling to guide bar length. The course is designed to prepare candidates for assessment for NPTC Certificate of Competence unit CS 31

Duration:

Three long days - when daylight permits - practical course: This is the minimum duration, and some trainees may need further consolidation.

Instructor/Trainee Ratio:

1:4 Max

Course Content:

Introduction
 Felling demonstration
 Felling trees up to 380mm diameter
 De-limbing of felled trees
 Cross cutting trunks of felled trees
 Takedown of Hung-up trees

Equipment and Facilities:

Chainsaw complying with precourse handout, Operator's maintenance kit and equipment

Safety equipment to include:

- safety helmet incorporating
- ear defenders and eye protection
- 'non' snag top
- chainsaw mitts/gloves (back of left hand safety padded)
- chainsaw trousers or leggings with safety padding
- chainsaw boots

NB: Instructors have been instructed not to undertake training where trainees do not have the appropriate protective equipment and appropriate saw.