



Level 2 Certificate in Core Competencies: Understanding Building Hardware

Qualification **Specification**

610/7607/7
CertCCUBHL226

June
2026

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1. ABBE

1.1 Introduction

ABBE, the Awarding Body for the Built Environment, is a forward-thinking organisation that offers a range of qualifications, benefits and support.

ABBE is regulated by Ofqual for the delivery of a range of qualifications. Our qualifications are nationally recognised helping learners to achieve their full potential and ambitions.

The full range of qualifications can be found on our website at www.abbqa.co.uk

1.2 Mission Statement

Our Values - Quality through Standards: Our aim is to provide a high-quality experience by building a strong community of mutual support and trust. We can use our collective talents to build meaningful partnerships to help us all to achieve our goals. ABBE is a recognised Awarding Organisation with strong professional integrity.

Our Vision: Is that every learner is confident, successful and has the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

Our Mission: ABBE Educates, inspires and empowers learners

1.3 Qualification Specification

The aim of this specification is to provide learners and centres with information about the content of this qualification. This specification is a live document and, as such, will be updated when required.

1.4 Enquiries

Any enquiries relating to this qualification should be addressed to:

ABBE

Birmingham City University

Curzon Building

4 Cardigan Street

Birmingham

B4 7BD

Tel: 0121 331 5174

Email: abbeenquiries@bcu.ac.uk

Website: www.abbqa.co.uk



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2. Qualification Information

2.1 Qualification Purpose

This qualification is designed to provide learners with the essential knowledge and understanding of the understanding the core competencies of Building Hardware. It aims to develop a strong foundational awareness of key principles, practices, and/or standards that are present across the fields within Building Hardware. By completing this qualification, learners will be equipped to apply their understanding in a range of contexts.

2.2 Who could take this Qualification?

This qualification is for individuals working in, or preparing to work in, customer service roles who wish to strengthen their knowledge and understanding the core competencies of Building Hardware This qualification is also suitable for learners looking to build confidence in applying key principles and improve their knowledge when interacting with customers and supports those seeking to enhance their professional skills, progress within their current role, or pursue further opportunities related to understanding the core competencies of Building Hardware.

2.3 Qualification Number

ABBE Level 2 Certificate in Core Competencies: Understanding Building Hardware in Building Hardware: 610/7607/7

2.4 Qualification Level

This qualification has been listed on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) at: Level 2

2.5 Total Qualification Time

This qualification is allocated Total Qualification Time (TQT) this includes Guided Learning (GL) expressed in hours, which indicates the number of hours of supervised or directed study time and assessment. Credit has also been allocated to this qualification.

- The Total Qualification Time (TQT) for this qualification is: 93
- Guided Learning (GL) for this qualification is: 15
- Credit Value: 13 credits

2.6 Age ranges

Pre 16	No
16-18	Yes
18+	Yes
19+	Yes

2.7 Structure of the Qualification

To achieve this qualification, learners must achieve **6** mandatory units and a minimum of **1** optional unit.



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Learners must achieve **6** mandatory units.

Mandatory Units				
Unit No.	URN	Unit Name	Credit Value	Level
1	A/652/1888	Commercial	3	2
2	D/652/1889	Handing, Fixings and Finishes of Building Hardware	2	2
3	J/652/1890	A History of Building Hardware	2	2
4	K/652/1891	Legislation	1	2
5	L/652/1892	Standards & Certification	1	2
6	M/652/1893	Sustainability of Building Hardware	2	2

Learners must achieve a minimum of **1** optional unit.

Optional Units				
Unit No.	URN	Unit Name	Credit Value	Level
7	L/652/1946	Access Control Hardware	4	2
8	R/652/1939	Access Control Systems	3	2
9	K/652/1936	Cylinders	2	2
10	L/652/1937	Door Closers	2	2
11	M/652/1938	General Door Hardware	4	2
12	A/652/1940	General Window Hardware and Window Hinges	4	2
13	D/652/1941	Hinges	2	2
14	Y/652/2074	Locks & Latches	3	2
15	F/652/1942	Padlocks, Padlock Fittings and Key Storage Boxes	3	2
16	H/652/1943	Panic and Emergency Exit Hardware	2	2
17	J/652/1944	Residential Smart Locking	2	2
18	K/652/1945	Seals	2	2



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2.8 Grading

This qualification is: Pass/Fail.



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3. Qualification Unit(s)

3.1 Mandatory Units

Unit 1 – Commercial

Unit reference Number: A/652/1888

Level: 2

Credit: 3

GLH: 4

Learning outcomes:

1. Understand the key stakeholders and their roles in the door hardware industry
2. Know the key organisations and their role in the door hardware industry
3. Understand pricing and costs basics in the door hardware industry
4. Understand supply chain management and procurement in the door hardware industry
5. Understand the sales and distribution channels within the door hardware industry
6. Understand legal considerations with regards to door hardware products
7. Understand market trends and consumer demands in the door hardware industry
8. Understand basic sales techniques used in the door hardware industry
9. Understand basic marketing strategies used in the door hardware industry
10. Understand financial management basics applied in the door hardware industry
11. Understand the importance of customer relations and service in the door hardware industry



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Unit 2 – Handing, Fixings and Finishes of Building Hardware

Unit reference Number: D/652/1889

Level: 2

Credit: 2

GLH: 2

Learning outcomes:

1. Understand handing of door hardware
2. Know the different ways of handing door hardware
3. Know the common fixings used in door hardware
4. Know the bolts used in door hardware
5. Know the fixings for different door hardware products
6. Know the most common door hardware finishes



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Unit 3 – A History of Building Hardware

Unit reference Number: J/652/1890

Level: 2

Credit: 2

GLH: 2

Learning outcomes:

1. Know the historical development of door hardware in ancient civilisations
2. Know the technological advancements in door hardware from wood-based systems to metalwork
3. Know the development and significance of door hardware in the medieval period, focusing on its functional security
4. Know the advancements in door hardware during the Renaissance, including formalisation of locksmithing as a profession, such as:
 - technical innovations
 - artistic developments
5. Know the key advancements in door hardware during the Industrial Revolution, focusing on:
 - the impact of mass production
 - material innovations
 - the development of patent locks
6. Know the evolution of door hardware in the modern era



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Unit 4 – Legislation

Unit reference Number: K/652/1891

Level: 2

Credit: 1

GLH: 1

Learning outcomes:

1. Understand current legislation relating building hardware products
2. Understand current legislation relating to construction activities
3. Know the current legislation related to fire in buildings



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Unit 5 – Standards & Certification

Unit reference Number: D/652/1889

Level: 2

Credit: 2

GLH: 2

Learning outcomes:

1. Understand the principles and types of standards
2. Understand the potential legal status of standards
3. Know certification schemes based on standards
4. Know the relationships between national and international standards bodies



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Unit 6 – Sustainability of Building Hardware

Unit reference Number: D/652/1889

Level: 2

Credit: 2

GLH: 2

Learning outcomes:

1. Know the principles of sustainability in relation to the building hardware sector
2. Know the role of Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs)
3. Understand sustainable materials and products in building hardware
4. Know about UK legislation, standards and certifications for sustainability
5. Understand what is meant by the term Greenwashing
6. Understand new trends and innovations in sustainable building hardware



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3.2 Optional Units

Unit 7 – Access Control Hardware

Unit reference Number: L/652/1946

Level: 2

Credit: 4

GLH: 7

Learning outcomes:

1. Understand the principles of Access Control and its use
2. Understand the difference between fail-safe and fail-secure
3. Know the different types of access control locking methods
4. Know what Electric Releases are
5. Know what Electro-Magnetic Locks are
6. Know what Hold-Open Magnets are
7. Know what Electric (Solenoid) Locks are
8. Know what Motor (Solenoid) Bolts are
9. Know what Electronic Locksets (Smart Locks) are
10. Know what Mechatronic Cylinders are
11. Know the different methods of releasing
12. Know the different methods of Opening and Access
13. Understand the need for power supply units
14. Understand transferring of power



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Unit 8 – Access Control Systems

Unit reference Number: R/652/1939

Level: 2

Credit: 4

GLH: 7

Learning outcomes:

1. Understand the principles and function of an Access Control System
2. Understand Standalone Access Control Systems
3. Understand Virtual Network Systems
4. Understand Wireless Network Systems
5. Understand Hardwired Network Systems
6. Understand Hybrid Network Systems
7. Know the different types of Access Control Controllers
8. Understand Door Entry Systems
9. Understand the Terminology for Access Control Systems



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Unit 9 – Cylinders

Unit reference Number: K/652/1936

Level: 2

Credit: 4

GLH: 7

Learning outcomes:

1. Understand the purpose of a cylinder and how they differ from lever mechanisms
2. Know the different types of cylinder profiles
3. Know the different types of cylinder formats and how to measure them
4. Know the different parts of a cylinder
5. Know the different cylinder keying formats
6. Know the functions of different types of cylinders
7. Know the security features of a cylinder
8. Know the different key types and key control



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Unit 10 – Door Closers

Unit reference Number: L/652/1937

Level: 2

Credit: 2

GLH: 4

Learning outcomes:

1. Understand the purpose of door closers
2. Understand how a door closer operates
3. Know the difference between controlled and uncontrolled door closers
4. Know the different types of door closers
5. Understand the different types of door closer mechanisms & mounting types
6. Understand the functionality of door closers
7. Understand the role of door closers in compliance and regulations



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Unit 11 – General Door Hardware

Unit reference Number: M/652/1938

Level: 2

Credit: 4

GLH: 7

Learning outcomes:

1. Understand the various types of door handles
2. Know what escutcheons are used for
3. Know what spindles are used for
4. Know what pull handles are
5. Know what flush pull handles
6. Know how doors are protected
7. Know the specifications for door letter plates
8. Know the different types of door knockers for residential properties
9. Know the styles and method for affixing door numerals
10. Know what a cylinder pull is
11. Know what door chains are
12. Know what a door viewer is
13. Know what a doorstop is
14. Know what a door bolt is
15. Know what furniture can be used on gates
16. Know how doors can be held open
17. Know the types of bathroom furniture
18. Know what finger protection is
19. Know what Anti-ligature Furniture is
20. Know what door signage is



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Unit 12 – General Window Hardware and Window Hinges

Unit reference Number: A/652/1940

Level: 2

Credit: 4

GLH: 7

Learning outcomes:

1. Know the basic window configurations and materials
2. Know the different types of window hardware
3. Understand the basic functions of a window
4. Understand the purpose of a Friction Hinge
5. Understand the different types and functions of Friction Hinges
6. Know the different parts and sizes of a Friction Hinge
7. Understand Friction Hinge selection criteria and associated terminology
8. Understand the purpose of a casement Window Handle
9. Know the different parts, sizes and types of casement Window Handle
10. Understand the different types of Handle function
11. Understand Handle selection criteria and associated terminology
12. Understand the purpose of a Window Lock
13. Know the different parts, sizes and types of Window Lock
14. Understand the different types of Window Lock function
15. Understand Window Lock selection criteria and associated terminology
16. Understand the purpose of a window restrictor
17. Know the different sizes and types of restrictors
18. Understand the different types of restrictor function
19. Understand restrictor selection criteria and associated terminology
20. Understand the purpose of a hinge protector
21. Understand the different parts, sizes and types of hinge protector
22. Understand the different hinge protector functions
23. Understand hinge protector selection criteria and associated terminology
24. Understand the purpose of a Spring Balance
25. Know the different types of Spring Balances
26. Know the different Spring Balance variants



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Unit 13 – Hinges

Unit reference Number: D/652/1941

Level: 2

Credit: 2

GLH: 3

Learning outcomes:

1. Understand the importance and purpose of hinges
2. Know the common components of hinges
3. Know the different types of hinges used on timber and steel doors
4. Know the different types of hinges used on UPVC and Composite doors
5. Understand the different types of hinge bearing systems
6. Know the common materials used in the manufacturing of hinges
7. Know the common finishes of hinges
8. Know the current Standard for hinges
9. Understand the selection criteria for hinges



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Unit 14 – Locks and Latches

Unit reference Number: Y/652/2074

Level: 2

Credit: 3

GLH: 5

Learning outcomes:

1. Know the difference between a Mortice and Rim Locks
2. Understand the importance of Mortice & Rim Locks
3. Know the difference between a Mortice Lever Lock and a Mortice Cylinder Lock
4. Know how Mortice Locks are measured
5. Know the different types of Lever Mortice Locks and their applications
6. Know the different types of Rim Locks
7. Know the different types of Tubular Mortice latches and bolts
8. Know the different types of Cylinder Mortice Locks and their applications
9. Know the different types of Scandinavian Mortice Locks and their applications
10. Know the different types of Aluminium Mortice Locks and their applications
11. Know the different types of Multipoint Locks
12. Know the different types of Cabinet and Cupboard Locks
13. Know the different types of Knobsets
14. Know the different types of Mechanical Digital Locks and their applications
15. Know the types of locks that can be fitted to glass doors



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Unit 15 – Padlocks, Padlock Fittings and Key Storage Boxes

Unit reference Number: F/652/1942

Level: 2

Credit: 3

GLH: 5

Learning outcomes:

1. Know the purpose of padlocks
2. Know the different types of padlocks
3. Know common shapes of padlocks
4. Know the different components of a padlock
5. Know the commonly used materials for padlocks
6. Understand the Key Features of Padlocks
7. Know the different accessories and fittings for padlocks
8. Know what the current Standards are for Padlocks
9. Understand the purpose of Key Storage Boxes
10. Know the different types of Key Storage Boxes and methods of opening them
11. Know the current standards that are available for Key Storage Boxes



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Unit 16 – Panic and Emergency Exit Hardware

Unit reference Number: H/652/1943

Level: 2

Credit: 2

GLH: 3

Learning outcomes:

1. Know the principles of escape
2. Understand the difference between Panic and Emergency Exit Hardware
3. Know the current standards for Panic Exit Hardware, Emergency Exit Hardware and Electrical Escape Systems
4. Know the major components for Panic and Emergency Exit Hardware
5. Know the accessories for Panic and Emergency Exit Hardware
6. Know the electrical systems that can be used as a means of escape



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Unit 17 – Residential Smart Locking

Unit reference Number: J/652/1944

Level: 2

Credit: 2

GLH: 2

Learning outcomes:

1. Know what a Smart Home is
2. Know what a Smart door lock is
3. Know the different types of Smart door locks
4. Know the different types of doors Smart door locks can be installed on
5. Understand how a Smart door lock works
6. Know the current standards for Smart door locks



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Unit 18 – Seals

Unit reference Number: K/652/1945

Level: 2

Credit: 2

GLH: 4

Learning outcomes:

1. Know the Building Regulations which affect the fire and smoke doors
2. Know the Test Standards with regards fire and smoke doors
3. Know the relevant fire test evidence and assessment reports to ensure fire doors meet safety standards and compliance requirements
4. Understand the purpose of a Fire Door (FD)
5. Know the key components of a fire door
6. Know the different types of doors
7. Know the third-party certification schemes in the fire door market
8. Know the purpose and function of seals and sealing systems
9. Understand the different types of intumescent seals
10. Know the different types of intumescent materials used in perimeter fire and smoke seals
11. Know the different types of perimeter acoustic and smoke seals
12. Know the different types of intumescent hardware protection
13. Know the Fire Door (FD) components which may require intumescent protection



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