

Course:	Design Technology, Product Design
Specification and code:	AQA A level design and technology: Product design 7552
Exam Board website:	AQA A-level Design and Technology: Product Design Specification at a glance
Course outline:	<p>The course is made up of two parts which have an equal weighting. The first part is the NEA or coursework which makes up 50% of the course. For this part you will need to identify your own client and design brief and then work through designing and making a product which fore fills the client's requirements. The NEA is substantial and is approximately 40 pages of A3 or equivalent</p> <p>The second part of the course is made up of 2 exams which makes up the other 50%.</p> <p>Paper 1 (30% of your grade) focuses on Technical principles and is a mixture of long and short answers. Example paper : Question paper: Paper 1 Technical principles - Sample set 1 2019 (aqa.org.uk)</p> <p>Paper 2 (20% of your grade) focuses on Designing and making principles and is made up of questions related to a product analysis and commercial manufacture. Question paper: Paper 2 Designing and making principles - Sample set 1 2019 (aqa.org.uk)</p> <p>Like the current GCSE, the exam board has introduced a maths content which requires the students to be aware of percentages, percentiles, ratios, calculate area and volume, trigonometry, construction and use of graphs and data, coordinates and geometry and statistics and probability. 15% of questions in the exam will assess mathematical ability.</p>
Essential Reading:	<p>AQA AS/A Level Design and Technology, Product design, Granger, Potts, Morrison and Sumpner ISBN: 978-1-5104-1408-2. This is the full text book, look out for these second hand on Ebay at a much-reduced price <u>My revision notes: AQA A -level Design and Technology Product Design. Morrison and Sumpner (Hodder Education) ISBN: 978-1-5104-3229-1</u> This book is essential as it contains all the theory in small sections and has examples of the exam questions with commentary. Reading through Part 1: Technical principles will provide a very good grounding also recapping on GCSE knowledge will be helpful. <u>Essential maths skills for AS/A-Level Design and Technology. Peter Warne and Chris Walker (Hodder Education) ISBN: 978-1-5104-1706-9</u> Maths accounts for around 15% of the exam paper marks and its starting point is GCSE grade 5. This book will help you understand and practice the maths requirement of the course</p>
Background reading:	<p>I would recommend reading a copy of the specification. You will be able to tick off lots of previous knowledge covered in GCSE DT (you will also be able to print a copy from TEAMs in September) A-level Design and Technology: Product Design Specification teaching from 2017 (aqa.org.uk) An exemplar NEA will be available on the TEAMs class from September</p>
Year 2 reading	<p>From the text book, unit 2: Designing and Making Principles includes additional knowledge needed for the exam at the end of the course. As well as knowledge to support the NEA</p>
Summer Task:	<p>Purchase the books in essential reading, <u>Look on Amazon now as these books will be sold by students competing the A-Level course.</u> Reading, AQA AS/ A level Design and technology: sections 1.1 to 1.4 (pages 1 to 84), read through the different materials, processes, properties and applications some you will be familiar with from GCSE but others you won't as they are exclusive to A-Level. Make revision notes on each of the materials focusing on the properties, characteristics and uses of each material.</p>