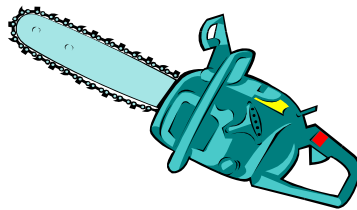


Thank you for your enquiry for chainsaw training. There have been many recent changes as both **LANTRA AWARDS** and **NPTC** have two training and accreditation schemes in place. We can help you with both and the notes following will hopefully assist you in meeting YOUR precise needs.



## NPTC (NATIONAL PROFICIENCY TESTS COUNCIL)

NPTC qualifications can be used not only for general chainsaw work but also for working on Forestry Commission land and in Arboriculture.

NPTC offer an **assessment only**. Usually a Lantra Awards “training only” course is required in order to cover items for assessment, as there is no such thing as a “NPTC training course”.

Technically, there is no legal requirement for training before sitting an NPTC assessment, however, **without appropriate training**, a candidate is **very unlikely to pass** the assessment – unless they are exceptionally experienced, fully aware of all relevant current health and safety aspects and fully conversant both theoretically and practically with current chainsaws and techniques. Would you apply for driving test without having any lessons?

## LANTRA AWARDS INTEGRATED TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT (ITA) COURSES

The instructor **trains and assesses** the candidate on the training course itself.

In both cases the trainee is **assessed**, so they have a **Certificate of Competence**.

Chainsaw training is **progressive**, you can't take Stage 3 for example without passing Stage 1 first and then Stage 2, and the further the progression, the more apparent the difference becomes between Lantra Awards and NPTC; but for now ..... your first step!

## FIRST STEP

### Everyone **MUST** have **Cross-Cutting and Maintenance (CC&M)**

This is often referred to as the “basic ticket” for chainsaw use. It does not cover felling, but is essential for basic operation, service and maintenance of the saw, PPE and cross cutting timber principles.

The training course for this is a Lantra Awards 2-day course. There is a maximum of 4 people allowed on it. This is exactly the training needed to do the NPTC Assessment CS30.

You can now choose to do: -

- Lantra Awards CC&M – 2 DAYS Training Only (Certificate of Attendance only) then separate NPTC Assessment after the 2 days.
- Lantra Awards CC&M [ITA] – 2 DAYS Training AND Assessment (Certificate of Attendance AND Assessment) within the 2 days.

Both these routes lead to the “industry ticket” FOR use of chainsaw  
(At the end of this info pack is an extract from HSE publication – ‘Chainsaws at Work’)

What we offer is an “added value” option – we run the Lantra Awards ITA, which if passed, gives a Certificate of Competence, then an NPTC Assessment can be taken later, but meanwhile you are still covered by the Certificate of Competence.

- Lantra Awards CC&M – 2 DAYS Training AND Assessment (Certificate of Attendance AND Assessment within the 2 days, then separate NPTC Assessment after the 2 days.

### **QUESTION: Do you intend working in the forestry?**

**YES** - you will need NPTC Accreditation, so our added value option is the one for you!!

**NO** - our Lantra Awards ITA is the one for you!

Once Cross Cutting and Maintenance is achieved you may progress on to felling, READ ON!!

## COSTS

CROSS CUTTING AND MAINTENANCE					
	DAYS	FULL COURSE OF 4	SINGLE INFILL PRICE	INFILL FOR 2-4	NOTES
LANTRA TRAINING ONLY	2	£1,580	£495	£395	
LANTRA ITA	2	£1,580	£495	£395	ADDED VALUE COURSE
LANTRA TRAINING AND NPTC	2+1	£1580 + £600	£495 + £150	£395 + £150	
LANTRA ITA AND NPTC	2+1	£1580 + £600	£495 + £150	£395 + £150	ADDED VALUE COURSE
FASTRACK LANTRA ITA	2	COURSE FOR 2	NA	NA	FASTRACK
		£990			

### FAST-TRACK

As it can be very difficult to co-ordinate 4 individuals onto a 2 -day course, we offer a fast-track option which is slightly more expensive, but we can then run it at less than capacity, for 2 people, which gives you more control of timing, you wont have to wait until clients join on to make 4. So if you have 2 people to be trained, we can book the dates with the instructor immediately.

### ADDED VALUE

Our added value courses provide a Certificate of Competence as well as the training required.

## FELLING AND FURTHER COURSES

**Progression onto these courses only after CC&M achieved.**

Generally, the further you want to progress with chainsaws, after the CC&M stage, then NPTC ACCREDITATION is required, as Lantra felling courses are more suited to the occasional user, such as landscapers, garden maintenance etc. NPTC is needed for arboriculture and forestry work

### LANTRA AWARDS

Lantra ITA Felling of Small Trees up to 200mm (8") diameter 2-Day Course



**THIS IS AS FAR AS YOU CAN CURRENTLY GO WITH LANTRA ITA**

[There are plans to introduce Felling of Medium Trees in 2007]

You receive a CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCE, and a Skills Identity Card, valid for 3 –5 years, depending on regularity of use, when a refresher is advised. The costs here are identical to the Cross Cutting and Maintenance ITA courses.

### NPTC

MUST HOLD CS30 FIRST

- **NPTC CS31** - Felling Small Trees up to 380mm (15") diameter  
3-Days Training before test
- **NPTC CS32** - Felling Medium Trees up to 760mm (30")  
3-Days Training before test
- **NPTC CS33** - Felling Large Trees, greater than 760mm (30")  
2 Days training before test
- **NPTC CS34** - Process Individual Wind Blown Trees
- **NPTC CS35** - Process Multiple Windblown Trees
- **NPTC CS38** - Climb Trees and Perform Aerial Rescue
- **NPTC CS39** - Using Chainsaw from Rope and Harness

Training is approx £150-£200 per day, depending on number of people attending training, felling site / venue, with subsequent assessment being approx £150 per unit. This may be less if 2 assessments are done in one day. So the costs budgeted tend to show the "most expensive" case scenario.

## Important General Points

- In general **all** chainsaw courses are **technically and physically** demanding. Be prepared – experienced users often have bad habits!
- Understandably, there is a big emphasis on Health & Safety aspects in the use of chainsaws, which can impact in all sorts of ways - if someone presents themselves for a course with PPE that is out of date, damaged or does not conform to current legislation, the instructor cannot start the course. To ensure we are never in this situation, our instructor carries stock PPE and saws in order for the course to proceed. We ask you for your boot size, and body size (S, M, L, XL) before the course to ensure we have them available. There is no extra charge for this. By all means bring your own saw (for a service!) and PPE, and our instructor can advise on suitability.

**How old is your helmet?**



- NPTC candidates are **strongly recommended** to familiarise themselves with the relevant NPTC Assessment Schedules. These can be purchased from the NPTC, downloaded from their website ([www.nptc.org.uk](http://www.nptc.org.uk)) or with a few days notice we can send candidates, who have booked training through us, a photocopy of the relevant schedule(s).
- It is recommended that **candidates** endeavor to **consolidate their chainsaw skills between courses or before assessment, to gain confidence and experience**. If one takes the analogy of the driving test – would it be likely that someone, who had never (or only a few times) driven a car before, pass their driving test first time after only say 4 or 5 lessons and no practice in between? Not impossible but we would suggest unlikely.
- The **time scale** for booking chainsaw training can be drawn-out due to a number of factors, including high demand, limited number of instructors, limited number of felling sites, seasonality, candidates being able to train on the same days (most training courses require a minimum number of candidates) etc. This is why we have introduced the fast-track option.
- A realistic time scale from query to date of course is 6 – 10 weeks.

- Candidates may have to be prepared to travel some distance to the training venues and felling sites.
- **Cancellation fee:** We try to avoid this whenever possible, but the nature of chainsaw courses being 2-5 days in length means that an instructor is unable to fill days at short notice, and consequently may charge us for a weeks lost work, see our terms and conditions for details.
- If you are training here at our site, we can take photos for your Skills Identity Cards, at no charge. However if you are at another site, it is advisable to bring 2 passport photos with you if you require these Skills Cards.
- Chainsaws must be 15-inch guide bar or less.

**If you have any queries or require further information in respect of chainsaw training / courses then do not hesitate to contact us.**

Nick Heins is our Environmental Training Manager

**Tel: 01443 670267**

[www.simplythebestfc.co.uk](http://www.simplythebestfc.co.uk)

**Below is part of the HSE Leaflet – CHAINSAWS AT WORK that relates to training.**  
**Training and Competence**

***All chainsaw use***

Chainsaws are potentially dangerous machines, which can cause major injury if used by untrained people. Anyone who uses a chainsaw at work should have received adequate training and be competent in using a chainsaw for that type of work. The training should include:

- dangers arising from the chainsaw itself;
- dangers arising from the task for which the chainsaw is to be used; and
- the precautions to control these dangers, including relevant legal requirements.

***Use of chainsaws in tree work***

The Approved Code of Practice supporting regulation 9 of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER 98) sets a minimum standard for competence of people using chainsaws in tree work: 'All workers who use a chainsaw should be competent to do so. Before using a chainsaw to carry out work on or in a tree, a worker should have received appropriate training **and obtained a relevant certificate of competence or national competence award**, unless they are undergoing such training and are adequately supervised. However, in the agricultural sector, this requirement only applies to first-time users of a chainsaw.'

This means everyone working with chainsaws on or in trees should hold such a certificate or award **unless:**

- it is being done as part of agricultural operations (e.g. hedging, clearing fallen branches, pruning trees to maintain clearance for machines); **and**
- the work is being done by the occupier or their employees; **and**
- they have used a chainsaw before 5 December 1998.

**In any case, operators using chainsaws for any task in agriculture or any other industry must be competent under PUWER 98.**