

Upholstery Beginners

Tutor: Nicola Dailey

Dates: Monday 20/04/26 to 01/06/26 (excluding 04/05/26 and 25/05/26)

Times: 18:30– 21:00

5 weeks

Course Information & Teaching Methods;

This is a workshop-type 5-week course, aimed at developing the skills required to strip down old upholstery in the correct sequence in order to create a new, well-structured seat appropriate to the design of the chosen item.

Beginners will work on a small item of furniture, e.g., a footstool, dining-chair seat or bedroom chair, which they will bring with them to class. These items will enable students to learn to recognise tools and equipment and to identify materials, applying webbing, hessian, fillings, scrim, calico, top cover and trimmings.

Everyone works at their own pace on projects of their own choice which they will bring with them.

The class is taught on a one-to-one basis between the student and tutor. When certain techniques are being taught, this may involve demonstrations or teaching in small groups.

Equipment;

The Arts & Crafts Centre has a heavy craft room with work benches and trestles suitable to this craft.

Please bring with you a small item of furniture, upholstery material, a small hammer, a pair of scissors, a camera (if available) and a note-book and pencil or pen.

Other tools and materials will be discussed during the first session.

An additional charge is applicable for materials used from the centre.

Additional Information;

Tea, coffee and biscuits are available in the kitchen area, for a small charge.

About the tutor;

Whilst working in the furniture construction industry in the eighties and nineties I learnt upholstery craftsmanship. At CD Kenworthy's in St Alban's I predominantly worked with 'World of Leather' and 'Ercol' furniture, learning how to repair upholstery in Modern furniture and how to restore and reupholster furniture using industrial equipment and processes.

I then specialised in Antique Furniture and joined 'R and V' Restorers in Whitwell. Here I learnt traditional upholstery skills, how to restore and preserve vintage furniture, repairing the internal structure and covering it with appropriate fabrics and trimmings.

Later I set up 'Adelaide Upholstery ', my own business in Luton. I had my own workshop studio and offered a traditional and modern upholstery service.