The Career Garden

**Work experience – First steps
with the company Heinrich Schmid**

HS Heinrich Schmid

Tasks for independent work at home or for project days at schools

Your work experience starts here!

Student's name:

_____
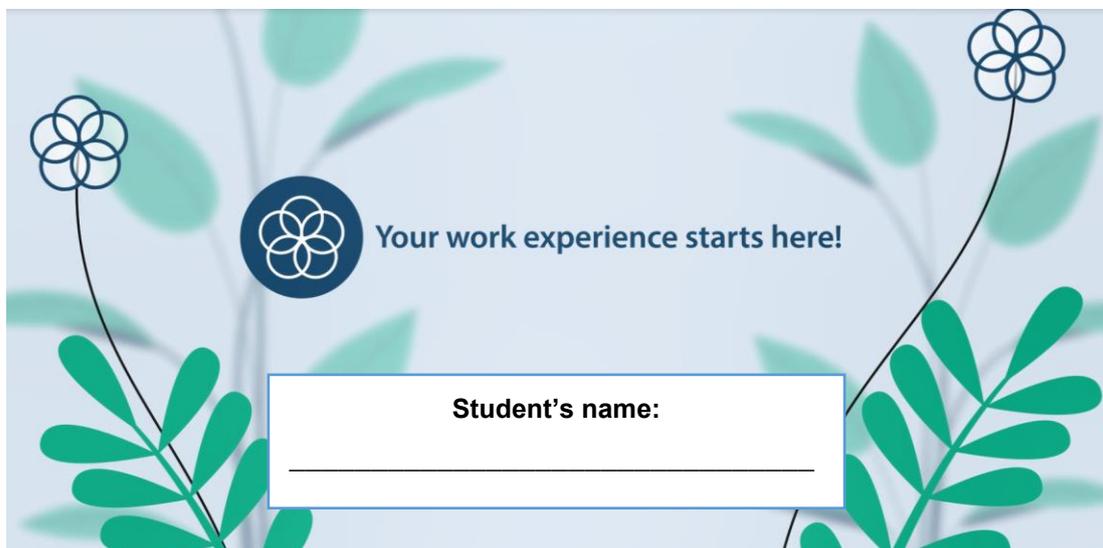
4.2. Work experience

Planning the painting of your room

Your room at home or a room at your school needs a new coat of paint.
The questions that arise are: Who can do the work? What do you want it to look like? How much will it cost? Can you possibly do it yourself?

There is a simple answer to the first question. A company like Heinrich Schmid can do it. To find out how much it will cost to have the work done by this company, you need to know the square footage of the room you want painted.

<u>Step 1: Determine the square footage</u>

How many walls does the room have?   _____
How high is the room?   _____
How wide is each wall?   _____
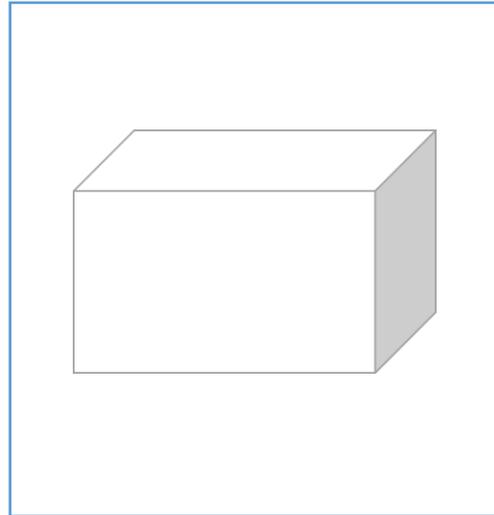
Enter the width and height of the walls in the sketch.
If you multiply the height times the width of each wall, you get 4 values, because normally there are 4 walls. Add these four values and you have the square footage. If the ceiling is also to be painted, you surely know how to get the number that still has to be added. 😉

Space for your calculations:

If the room has doors, the area of the doors can be calculated out. You can calculate with an estimate and assume that each door is 1 x 2 m in size. So how many square meters do you subtract?

You have now determined a square meter number and hopefully not forgotten to note the unit? Wonderful.

Result: _____   _____

Step 2: Design and color decision

In Part 3 of your at-home work experience, you reviewed or learned some important things to say about colors and their effects. In part 4 you have tried out some of the techniques for designing a room.

Now decide on the color and room design and make a small sketch. Just draw the colors.
If you want, add some decorative elements.

Examples of what you might have chosen
- single colored walls, color choice: very light green (RAL 6019 white green)
- one wall with a different color than the other three
- a base with a different color than the upper part of the walls
- a freehand pattern or stencil pattern as a border on all walls
- ceiling of a different color than the walls

Keep in mind that the room does not have to look boring, but that many features next to each other will cost more and sometimes make the room look restless. However, a few elements can add interesting touches.

Just draw the colors in the sketch and - if desired - add some decorative elements as well. So that the company knows what is to be done, briefly describe below the sketch with key points how your room should look.
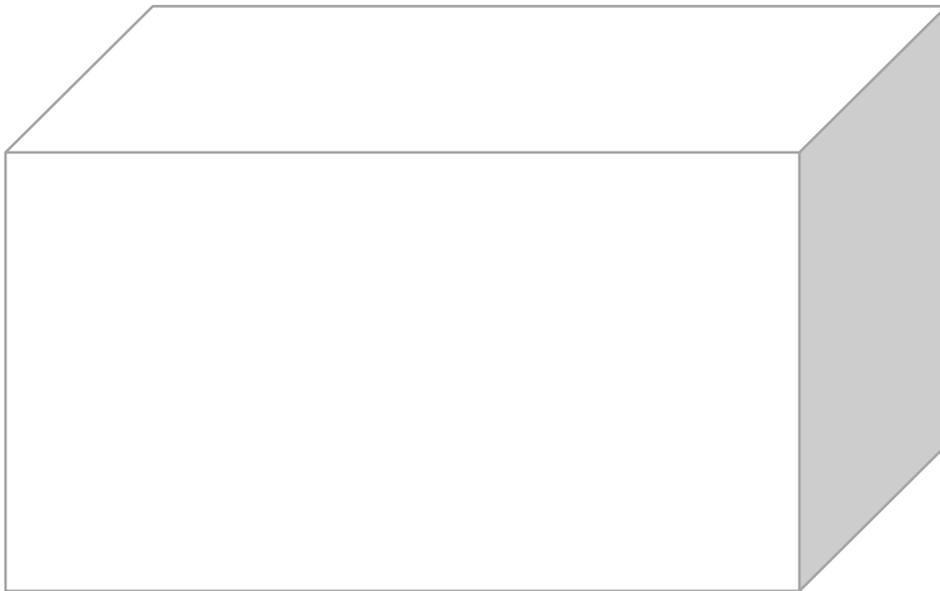
Description: _____

_____

_____

_____

Step 3: Get a quote from the company

After the preparation, you can now contact the company Heinrich Schmid and get an offer. You can find the contacts to the company on our website.

But what is an offer? What does it have to contain? What do you do after you receive the offer and decide whether to accept it or not?

Find out. You can get information either here

Link: https://www.sekada.de/business-english/englische-korrespondenz/artikel/how-to-write-an-offer/

or ask a craftsman in your family or among your acquaintances.

So your answer is? An offer should contain the following information:

_____

_____

Now write your request to the company to get a quote. First, think about what 4 to 5 words should be in the subject line so that someone in the company can easily filter out your e-mail from many others and it can be attributed to you as a person.

Tip: **What is a subject line?**

The subject of a message, such as an e-mail, is ideally a short version of the content of the message or the topic. It should be kept as short and concise as possible to enable the message recipient to quickly identify the subject.

(google search)

New message

To   Cc Bcc

Subject

No idea

Max Schmid

No idea

Now you need an e-mail text to request a quote. An example is here, super-easily "coded" for you, in case you don't know how to make a request to a company. Of course, you can also change a few things or find your own wording.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I would like to get a quote from you for painting one room in my flat (address: Mayer, 33 Flower Road, Berlin 10117)

The room has got 22 sqm, two doors and one big window, heights 2.50m. The area to be painted is about 48 sqm including the ceiling.

I like to have two different colors to be applied, a light green for one wall – reference RAL 6019 (rectangle of about 12 sqm with white frame) and parts of the ceiling (rectangle of about 16 sqm with white frame) and white for everything else.

When would the next time slot be available for doing this job?

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Best regards
Name:
Phone:

Before you send the e-mail, please check again if the following is included:

o Salutation
o Your request
o Total area of your room in sqm
o How the room should be designed with exact color specification
o When the work should be done
o Greeting
o Your contact information (e-mail, address and phone number)

Step 4: Compare and calculate the costs in case you would paint yourself

While you are waiting for the offer from Heinrich Schmid, you can take a look here: at http://handwerkerkosten.net/wohnung-streichen-kosten/ there are sample costs for painting work. So you can compare later, where the company ranks here - rather in the upper or lower price segment.

Now it is interesting to compare what it would cost to take up the brush yourself.

Let's start from the simple case that you are painting your room with two colors and only need to repaint, but not wallpaper. What do you need for this job?

What do I need?	How much does it cost?	Where do you get it? Can you buy, borrow or get it for free somewhere?
Brush for corners		
Cleaner for…		
Bucket of ready paint for ____ sqm:		
workwear		

Take another look at the film with the apprentices. There you can see clearly what is needed for painting. Alternatively, you can also look on the Internet. Have you thought of everything? If so, how expensive are the materials for the renovation? (All DIY stores also have an online store where you can find costs for masking tape or tarpaulins, for example).

Now you could expand the list and add what additional design elements your room should have (if you have planned any). What materials will you need? Add the material costs of these elements to the ones you have already calculated.

Now you have an idea what your painting work would cost in total.

_____ Total estimated costs for materials if I paint my room myself

Now your working hours are missing to make a comparison possible. Mark the category you belong to:

Hourly wage

☐ unskilled worker 11,40 €

☐ apprentice worker 13,80 €

☐ apprenticed worker with several years of experience 14,50 €

(Of course, there are more levels in between and wages vary among companies).

☐ Master painter 40,00 - 60,00 €

Assuming that the execution of the work takes one and a half working days (8 hours per day), you can now note the total number of hours of working time here: _____ hours.

Presumably, you have classified yourself as unskilled. What would your work cost?

_____ Euros. Of course, you will save these costs if you do everything yourself. You can still enter them as an item to be included for fun, so that you can make a comparison with the professional company.

The labor costs for a skilled painter are logically higher than your own. It can still be worth spending more money and deciding for a company, because it will probably be faster, of higher quality and a painter knows tricks how to work cleanly and yet quickly.

Step 5: Comparing and deciding

How would you decide: renovate the room yourself or give the work to a company? Give reasons for your decision.

I would _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

That was quite a lot at once. Thank you for your willingness to try everything.

<u>Step 6: Overall assessment of the at-home work experience for the painting profession</u>

After you have tried out all the pre-internship tasks, you will certainly be richer by a few experiences. Evaluate what you have learned, which tasks you enjoyed, what you like about the painting profession and what you find critical. Write down whether you could choose the painting profession or not and what the reasons for your decision are.