

Module 7

MAKING & PERSONALIZATION

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LEARNER'S HANDOUT



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Module 7: MAKING & PERSONALIZATION

Why this activity is important and how it helps you when you renovate real places.

Why this activity is important

Spaces are not only walls, furniture, or colours – they are also shaped by objects we use every day. Small objects, adapted or personalised, can make a space easier to use, more comfortable, and more meaningful.

The MAKING & PERSONALIZATION activity helps you turn ideas, feelings, and needs into real objects. These objects can support routines, improve orientation, add tactile comfort, and reflect the identity of the people using the space.

Even simple tools and materials can be used to make objects that matter. You don't need to be an expert or use advanced machines. What matters is your idea, your intention, and how you connect it to real needs.

What the MAKING & PERSONALIZATION activity is

This activity is a hands-on experience where you design and make small objects based on your insights or the needs of the people who use a space.

You will:

- Choose something important you noticed about yourself, others, or the space (an emotion, a routine, a colour, or a sensory need).
- Sketch a simple idea of an object that could respond to it.
- Build the object using the materials and tools available.
- Add personal touches, textures, colours, or symbols.
- Test how the object works in a space.

The goal is not technical perfection, but to make your idea real and meaningful.

What you will do in this activity

1. Find an insight

Think about what matters in the space or the people using it. Examples:

- Calm
- Stimulation

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- Easy storage
 - Orientation
 - Soft textures for comfort
 - A colour that supports wellbeing

2. Sketch your object

Draw a simple version of your idea on paper. Focus on:

- Function: What will it do?
- Size: How big or small should it be?
- Placement: Where in the space will it go?

3. Build the object

Use the materials and tools available to create the basic structure. You might:

- Cut and assemble cardboard, wood, or textiles
- Join pieces with tape, glue, or screws
- Keep the structure stable and usable

4. Customize

Add colours, textures, tactile details, or symbolic elements. Ask yourself:

- Does it still meet the original need?
- Does it feel comfortable and usable?
- Is it connected to the atmosphere or function I want?

5. Test and present

Place the object in a space (real or imagined) and check how it works. Then:

- Show your object to the group
- Explain your choices and what need it responds to
- Reflect on how making it felt and what you learned

Why you do it for yourself first

Before designing for others, it is helpful to explore your own ideas and needs. By making objects yourself, you notice:

- What helps you feel comfortable and supported
- How small changes can improve usability, orientation, or routine
- How personalisation can create meaning in a space

Later, you can use the same skills to involve others and make spaces more inclusive.

How this activity helps in real life

Making objects in this way helps you:

- Transform ideas, feelings, or needs into tangible solutions
- Understand how objects affect the perception and use of space
- Support routines, orientation, or comfort for yourself and others
- Experiment, reflect, and improve your designs through trial and error
- Work with others, share ideas, and collaborate on small interventions

Even small, simple objects can have a big impact on how people experience a space.

What is the most important skill you learn here?

DESIGN AWARENESS

This means:

- Connecting insights, emotions, routines, and sensory preferences to practical objects
- Thinking about how objects work in real spaces
- Making conscious choices instead of random decisions
- Testing, adapting, and improving ideas

By developing design awareness, you learn to create spaces that are functional, meaningful, and responsive to people's needs.

EVALUATION

1. What is the main purpose of MAKING & PERSONALIZATION?

- a) To make objects look beautiful
- b) To turn insights, feelings, and needs into useful and meaningful objects
- c) To learn to use advanced machines

2. You need to be an expert to make useful objects.

- True
- False

3. How do you choose materials for your object?

- a) Based on the insight or need you want to respond to
- b) By picking the most expensive items
- c) Randomly

4. What is more important than technical perfection?

- a) Meaning, function, and usability
- b) The colour of the object
- c) How fast you finish

5. Small, simple objects can change how people experience a space.

- True
- False

6. What should you do after making your object?

- a) Show and explain it to others, reflecting on choices
- b) Hide it until it looks perfect
- c) Take a photo and delete it

7. The object must be decorative to have an impact.

- True
- False



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