



Year 8 Design & Technology Progress Ladder

Use this document to track how you are improving throughout the year. Look at the statements for each level to see what you can do now and what you need to work on next to reach the next level.

	Technical knowledge				Designing				Making				Evaluating			
Examples of how to achieve in each area:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse the target market/user to identify needs and preferences. Explore the work of other designers to gather inspiration. Use a range of research techniques to analyse products, create mood boards, and study materials and processes. Understand the properties of materials and explain how different materials and processes are used. 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generate creative design ideas that are linked to the brief. Avoid design fixation by exploring various options before finalising. Use 2D/3D drawings, diagrams, and models to communicate ideas clearly. Annotate designs to explain their development and how they meet the brief. 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use tools and equipment (hand tools/machines) safely to build the prototype. Apply appropriate techniques such as shaping, construction, and assembly. Choose and use materials that are fit for purpose, ensuring the prototype works as intended. Ensure a professional finish with functional and aesthetic qualities. 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse the brief and specification to assess how well the design meets requirements. Test and evaluate ideas during development to make improvements. Evaluate your work during making, identifying any problems and making improvements to ensure the product meets the design goals. Evaluate the final prototype by assessing strengths and areas for improvement. 			
Mastering (8.9)	1	2	3	Success Criteria	1	2	3	Success Criteria	1	2	3	Success Criteria	1	2	3	Success Criteria
				You can independently link your research findings to the project and justify how it influences your design and material choices.				You can come up with a range of creative and original design ideas that show your imagination.				You can create a high-quality product that uses a range of materials and skills.				You can evaluate your work independently at each stage of the project to make sure it meets the design goals.
				You can explain in detail how different material properties are relevant to your design.				You can present your ideas clearly using different techniques like drawings, models and annotation.				You can work independently to create your product with great attention to detail.				You can test your work thoroughly and independently and make improvements based on feedback and your own analysis.
				You can explain the economic and environmental impact of the materials and processes you use.				You can collect feedback on your designs and use it to make improvements.				Your product is fully functional and looks professional.				You can evaluate how well your work meets the needs of the user and any other relevant factors (e.g., social, environmental concerns).
				You can justify the suitability of specific materials and processes based on their properties.				You can test your design to see if it matches your specification and explain how you will improve it.				You can solve problems quickly and adapt your work if things don't go as planned.				
Mastering (8.7-8.8)	1	2	3	Success Criteria	1	2	3	Success Criteria	1	2	3	Success Criteria	1	2	3	Success Criteria
				You can research on your own and explain how it links to the project.				You can come up with many creative design ideas that clearly relate to the design brief.				You can make a final product that is very accurate and has a high-quality finish.				You can evaluate your work independently to identify areas for improvement and make changes.
				You can write a detailed plan on your own which explains why some of your design points are important.				You can use detailed drawings, notes, and models to communicate your ideas.				You can make sure your final product works well and follows the design plan.				You can test most aspects of your work and refine it based on the needs of the user and the design specification.
				You can choose and explain the best methods to solve design problems.				You can improve your designs by testing them and making changes based on feedback.				You can check your work carefully and solve problems as they come up while making it.				You can discuss how you have solved problems throughout your project and explain the changes you made.
				You can explain and justify the properties of materials.				You can justify material choices, explaining how they are the best option for your design.				You can make your product look professional and ensure it is finished to a high standard.				

	Technical knowledge				Designing				Making				Evaluating			
	1	2	3	Success Criteria	1	2	3	Success Criteria	1	2	3	Success Criteria	1	2	3	Success Criteria
Secure (8.5-8.6)				You can research on your own using many sources.				You can create different design ideas based on the brief and explore more complex solutions.				You can work independently with skill and accuracy with a range of tools and equipment.				You can evaluate your work and make improvements to meet the design specification.
				You can suggest suitable methods for solving design problems.				You can use drawings, notes, or simple models to show your ideas clearly.				You can make your final product to a high standard, ensuring it works as intended.				You can test some aspects of your work and refine it based on the needs of the user and the design specification.
				You understand the project, who it is for, and what they need.				You can test your design, making necessary changes to improve it.				You can check your work and adapt to improve the result.				You can evaluate how effectively you have worked and identify areas for improvement.
				You can explain the properties of materials and why they are useful.				You understand materials and can explain why they work well for your design.				You can solve problems quickly if your plan doesn't work as expected.				
Developing/Secure (8.3-8.4)																
				You can use different sources to research and look at other people's work.				You have considered materials carefully and can explain why they are suitable for your design.				You can make a final product that works well and reflects your design ideas.				You can evaluate your work at different stages, identifying what's working well and what needs improvement.
				You can research or analyse products and use this to improve your designs.				You make changes to your designs based on testing and feedback.				You can use tools and equipment independently and demonstrate good skill.				
				You can describe some material properties and explain how they could be used.				You can show your ideas through clear drawings, notes, or models.				You can choose the right tools for each task and use them correctly.				You can make changes to improve your work, though you may need some support to evaluate effectively.
				You can explain how you used tools and processes.				You can consider materials and explain why they are suitable.				You can check your work and make adjustments as needed.				
Developing (8.1-8.2)																
				You can look at research or examples of other products and use them to get ideas.				You can come up with some design ideas that are connected to the brief.				You can show you understand the importance of being careful when using tools and materials.				You can evaluate your work with some guidance and make simple improvements.
				You understand the project and who it is for.				You can show your ideas using simple drawings or notes.				You can pay attention to detail and accuracy when making your product.				
				You can choose some methods that help with your designs.				You have tested your ideas and made some improvements.								
				You can describe the properties of some materials.				You can explain why materials are suitable for your design.				You can make a product that reflects your ideas, and you are improving your skills.				You can identify some good points and areas for improvement in your work.

1	Marble Maze
2	Lino Printed Calico Tote Bag
3	

Reflection: WWW – What went well and EBI – Identify areas for improvement, what would you do differently next time?

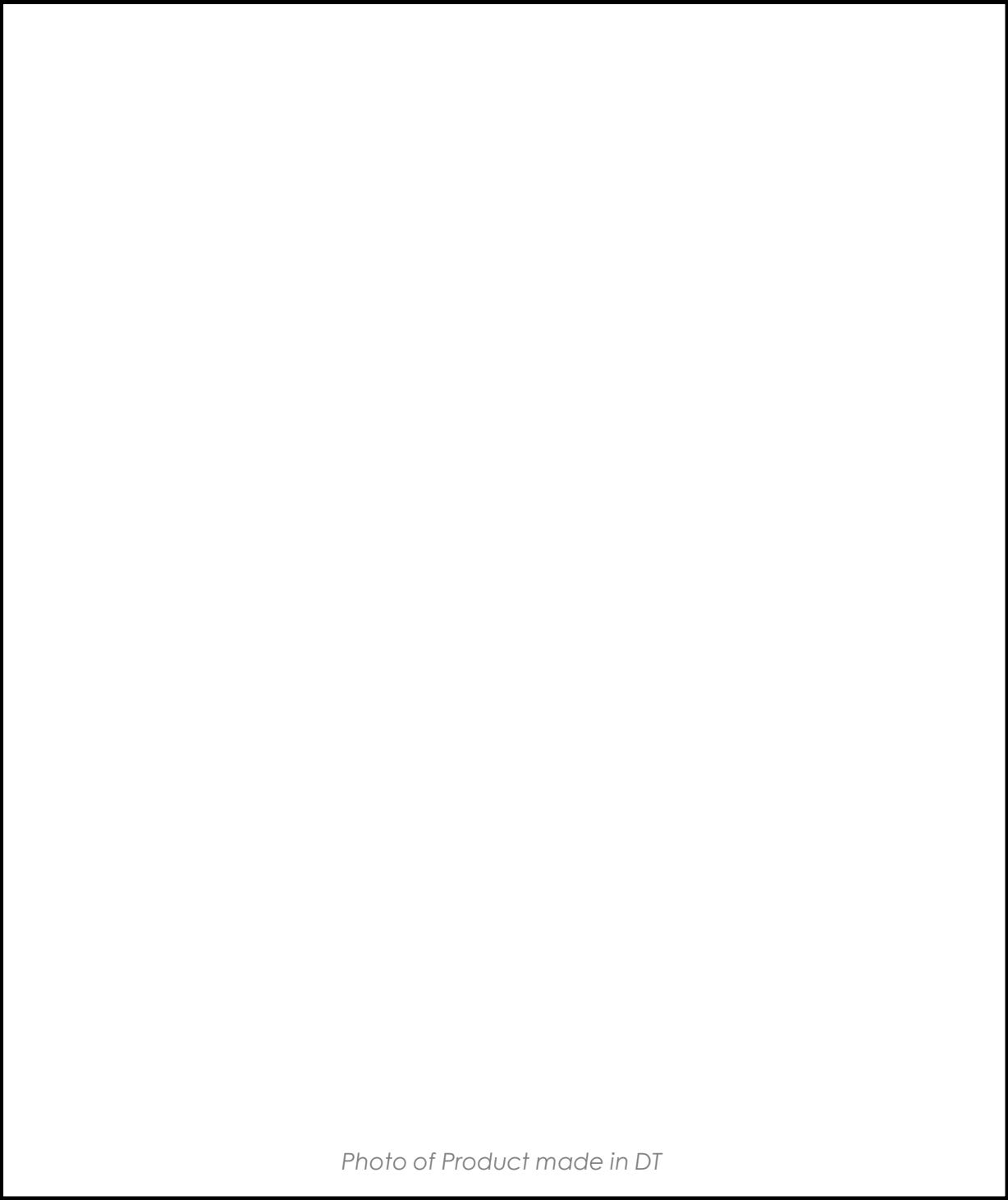


Photo of Product made in DT

Title: _____

WWW: _____

EBI: _____

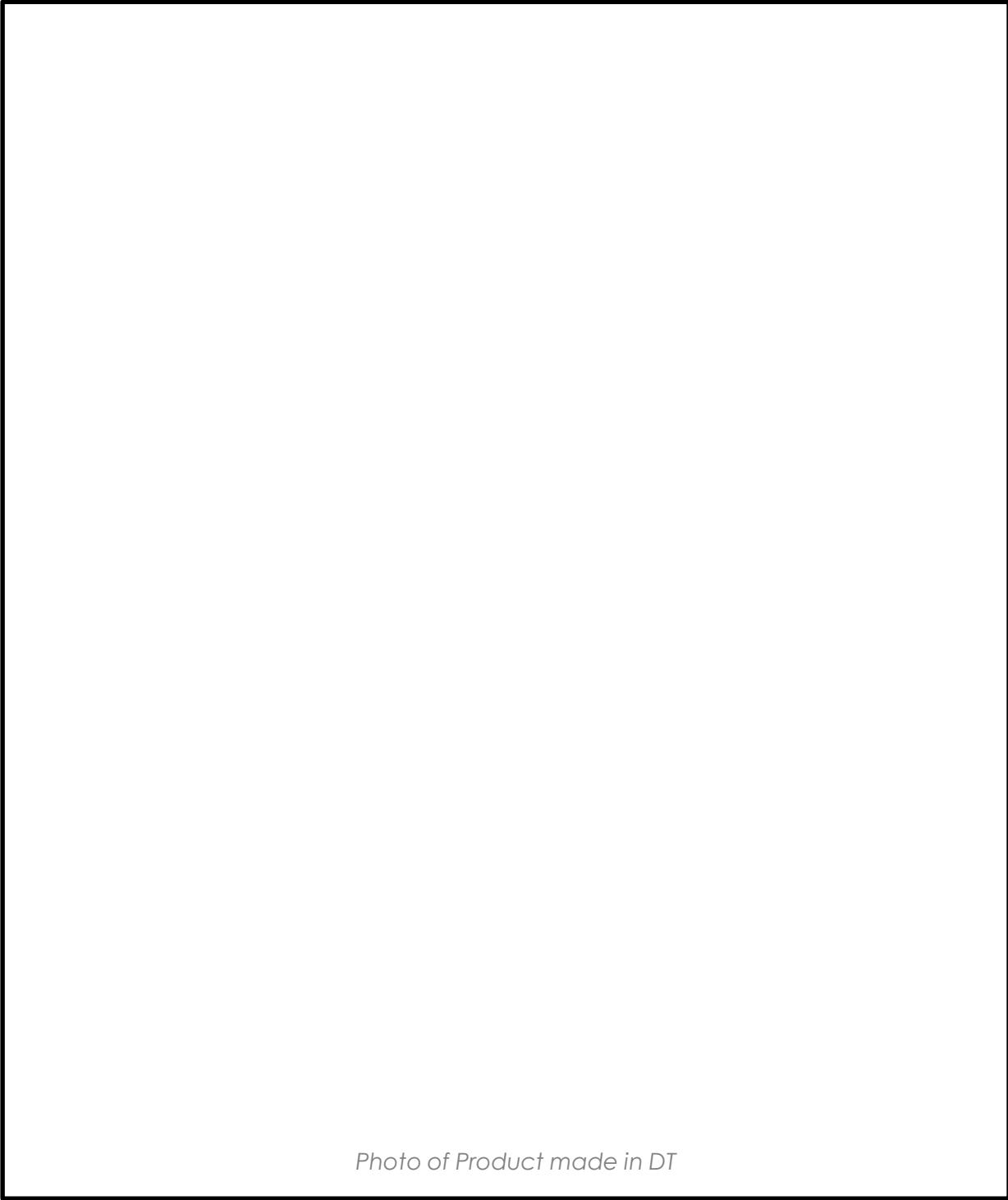


Photo of Product made in DT

Title: _____

WWW: _____

EBI: _____