BURY ADULT LEARNING SERVICE
LEARNING FOR LIFE & WORK
LET'S DO IT!

Course Information Sheet 2026/27
Learning for Pleasure Course

Course title:	**Soft Furnishing and Upholstery**		**Code: LPR401Z**
Tutor:	Alicja Wygas		
Day & Time:	Thursday 10.00am – 12.00am		
Start & End Dates:	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3 15/04/27-27/05/27
Number of sessions:			7
Venue:	Ramsbottom Library and Adult Learning Centre		**Room No:** Sheila Magnall and Lowry
Learner Numbers:	Minimum	Maximum	
	8	10	
Costs:	Full Fee	Discounted Fee	
	£114.10	£57.05	
Cost of Consumables	Learners will provide their own fabrics and materials for the project of their choice. There are limited materials available from the Bury Adult Learning Service stock. Learners must cover the cost of any materials used.		

What will I learn on this course?

This course is designed for both beginners and those with some experience in soft furnishings and upholstery who wish to further develop their skills.

The course follows a learner-led approach, allowing you to select a project that reflects your individual interests and skill level. Your chosen project will form the main focus of your work during the term. For more complex or larger projects, there may be the opportunity to continue development across the academic year.

You will be introduced to:

- Current trends in soft furnishings and upholstery
- Traditional methods and techniques
-

The class has a friendly and supportive atmosphere. Learners help and encourage each other, and **you will have the chance to:**

- Learn new skills
- Observe different techniques
- Gain inspiration from others' projects

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

- Use sewing machines and overlockers safely and confidently
- Use tools and equipment correctly for your chosen project

- Estimate the amount of fabric and materials needed
- Make soft furnishings such as:
  - Blinds
  - Curtains
  - Cushions
- Restore and reupholster furniture, including:
  - Suspension systems
  - Stuffing
  - Top covers

Additional information

Before you enrol on a course advice and information is available to help you decide if this is the right course for you. Contact Learner Services on 0161 253 7501 or e-mail at learner.services@bury.gov.uk. Alternatively, you can get advice and information from Bury Adult Learning Centre on 0161 253 5772.

Tutor profile

Alicja is a fully qualified tutor with over 30 years' experience teaching adults. She has been creating soft furnishings for more than 40 years and brings a wealth of knowledge and hands-on experience to support your learning. She is passionate about helping learners improve their homes by making simple but effective changes to windows, furniture, and furnishings. She enjoys working with learners to design and create items for their own homes and their families.

Every new reupholstery project excites her, as no two pieces are ever the same. Alicja believes there is always something new to learn and enjoys learning alongside her learners.

What will I need to provide myself?

You will need a basic sewing kit, including needles, pins, scissors, a rotary cutter, a stitch ripper and a selection of threads. If you have any fabric, you are welcome to bring it along. If not, don't worry – we will help you find something to work on in your first session. As the course progresses, you will be expected to provide your own materials for the projects you choose.

Important additional information to learners planning to work on upholstery projects.

There are no storage facilities to leave the projects on premises, therefore you will need to bring the piece in and take it back every time you attend the class. Please be mindful of the size and weight of the piece you are planning to work on, as you, will be expected to handle your furniture on your own. If you need assistance to carry it in and out of the building, you will need to make your own arrangement to do so.

Your tutor will discuss materials further at the first class.
Please check that the class is running before buying anything.

What could I do next?

Your tutor will be able to advise on the options available to you in their subject. If you would like to speak to someone about moving on, please ask your tutor to refer you to Learner Services or contact them directly on 0161 253 7501 or e-mail at learner.services@bury.gov.uk

Can I get extra help?

Support with English and Maths is available. For more information, please contact Learner Services on 0161 253 7501.

Extra support is available for those learners who have sensory, physical or cognitive impairments, neuro-divergent or with mental health conditions.

Help with paying for your course

You may be entitled to a reduced fee for your course if you claim a benefit. Please the course guide or ask at the centre for more details. You will be asked to produce evidence on enrolment.

How to enrol

Phone: 0161 253 5772
Call into: Bury Adult Learning Centre, 18 Haymarket Street, Bury, BL9 0AQ

Please keep your copy of this information sheet.

It will be useful throughout your course.