

Beekeeper Training Progress Card
Name _____

- 1** Understand Principle
- 2** Seen Demonstrated
- 3** Practiced With Supervision
- 4** Can Perform Independently

Skill	1	2	3	4
Wearing bee tight protective clothing				
Using clean gloves and hive tool				
Dealing with a sting				
Observing the hive entrance, interpreting the bees behaviour				
Lighting, stoking and safely extinguishing a smoker				
Standing in correct position for inspecting hive				
Inspecting in correct order i.e. brood chamber first				
Using hive tool to separate hive parts and lift frames				
Using smoke to control bees and to avoid squashing bees				
Working calmly and gently, moving slowly				
Inspecting combs without rolling or squashing bees				
Recognising queen, worker and drone				
Recognising nectar, pollen, honey				
Recognising eggs, larvae and pupae & know development times				
Distinguishing between worker and drone brood				
Distinguishing between play cups and occupied queen cells				
Distinguishing between swarm, supersedure and emergency cells				
Estimating stores, visually and by hefting				
Opening colonies in suitable conditions and for a set purpose				
Using hive parts correctly and understanding their function				
Spacing frames correctly and understanding bee-space				
Shaking bees from combs				
Brushing bees from combs				
Finding and marking the queen				
Judging when a colony needs more space				
Recognising when a colony is preparing to swarm				
Carrying out swarm control e.g. artificial swarm				
Uniting two colonies together				
Taking and hiving a swarm				
Recognising and dealing with laying workers				
Recognising and dealing with a drone laying queen				
Recognising a queenless colony and testing for queenlessness				
Introducing a queen				
Locating hives to avoid drifting				
Keeping colony records				
Checking that honey is ripe and clearing bees from supers				
Uncapping, extracting, bottling and labelling honey				
Harvesting and cleaning beeswax				
Inspecting for brood diseases				
Replacing brood combs regularly				
Recognising signs of adult bee disease				
Taking a sample of adult bees in a match box				
Assessing Varroa levels				
Using non medicinal <i>Varroa</i> control methods				
Applying medicinal <i>Varroa</i> treatments				
Being vigilant for notifiable pests and diseases				
Making up sugar syrup and feeding bees				
Recognising and avoiding robbing				
Protecting bees from wasps, mice and woodpeckers				



Beekeeper Training Progress Card

This card shows some of the skills you should acquire as you learn beekeeping.

You can use it to record your progress.

Take it with you to Training Sessions, Improvers' Groups and Open Days.

After each apiary session, tick off things you've understood, watched or practiced.

Skills can be learnt in any order.

It may take several years to complete but shows how you are progressing.

Once you have achieved the majority of the tasks, consider taking the British Beekeepers Association Basic Assessment, which is like the Beekeeping Driving Test!