

# Upholstery Courses at Hamilton & Hodson 2021-22



Hamilton & Hodson offer one- and two-day courses throughout the year that will give students, new and experienced, the space and opportunity to develop a passion for upholstery. Under close supervision, you will develop the skills to upholster accurately and creatively and come away with an amazing sense of achievement (as well as your very own piece of furniture that you restored!).

## **COURSE DATES IN 2021-22**

Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2021

Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2021

Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2021

Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2022

Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2022

Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2022

Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2022

Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2022

Timings: 9.30am – 4.30pm

## **“BRING YOUR OWN PROJECT” UPHOLSTERY COURSES**

Our courses are based on a “Bring your own project” format. You can work on a piece of furniture that you already have and want to restore to its former glory or you can bring something that’s caught your eye whilst trawling auctions and second-hand shops. Nestled in the train station at Redland, our workshop is a wonderful space to learn a new skill, use your imagination and focus on a creative project. We only book three students for each day, so you will be closely supported by one tutor to realise your new upholstery ambition and share ideas with other students. You can book for one or two days or for a series of days to develop your knowledge and skills to a greater level and tackle more complex pieces. No prior experience is required.

### **WHO ARE OUR COURSES FOR?**

Our courses can be undertaken by complete beginners and those with some upholstery experience.

#### ***Beginners***

We recommend new students start with a simple project to learn the basic principles of upholstery. We advise working on a footstool, dining chair or small headboard as a first step. We can also provide an introduction to using a sewing machine; perfect for your first box or scatter cushion project or to create some sumptuous piping to finish a chair.

#### ***More experienced students***

Once you have a little experience, a small upholstered chair or ottoman would be a good next step. We encourage those with more experience to join us and those who need help in finishing a piece started at home.

### **WHAT TYPE OF FURNITURE CAN I WORK ON?**

You can work on any type of furniture. However, please refer to the section above for guidance about what is a realistic project for the number of days you book and your level of experience. Each course usually has a mix of complete beginners, returning students and those with some upholstery

experience. This means that you will not only learn the techniques to restore your own piece, you can see how other pieces are restored which could spur you on to do more upholstery!

## **COURSE OVERVIEW**

You will begin by stripping your piece of furniture of the old fabric, nails/staples and any padding materials that are too old to re-use. You will then be shown how to re-build or re-fresh the inner structure (the padding or inners) that creates the seating or padded area using either traditional or modern upholstery techniques. The techniques learnt will depend on the type, design and age of your piece. To finish, you will attach the top fabric and any decorative features (braid, double-piping, decorative nails) that are required. If appropriate, you can learn how to make things like box cushions and piping using a sewing machine. You can also learn about basic wood restoration (reviving and finishing show wood and basis frame repairs). Occasionally, you may run out of time. However, we will advise you on how to finish things at home and you will have a resource pack that includes reference sheets on techniques to support your learning.

## **YOUR TUTORS**

You will be taught by either Nicky Hamilton and Erica Fredricksson, the owners of Hamilton & Hodson. Nicky and Erica have over 30 years' combined experience in upholstery and love to share their skills with eager students.

## **EQUIPMENT NEEDED**

- You will need to bring your own piece of furniture and fabric. As a Hamilton & Hodson student, we can offer you a 10% on the recommended retail price (RRP) of most fabrics. We have a wonderful selection of fabrics here at the workshop. Please call or email us to make an appointment to visit. We can usually request any samples to be sent direct to students free of charge.
- A notebook and pen.
- A camera or phone to log the different stages of the upholstery process.
- Appropriate footwear: closed trainers or hard-soled shoes.

We provide a set of tools for each student to borrow for the duration of the course. You can also bring your own tools if you have some.

You will need to bring your own lunch and snacks. We have a kitchen with a kettle, fridge and microwave that students can use. We offer tea, coffee and water throughout the day but please bring your own specialist drinks.

## **THE COST**

The cost for ONE DAY is £120.00. However, if you book for more than one day at the point of booking, the cost goes down to £110.00 per day.

There will be a small additional cost for materials (including tacks, twine, staples and thread), which the tutor records as you work. This usually doesn't amount to more than £10 for each piece of furniture. Substantial materials (such as foam) will be more. Payment can be made at the end of the day by bank transfer or cash.

## **HOW TO BOOK A PLACE**

Before booking, please contact us (either by phone or email) to discuss your proposed piece of furniture. We will advise you on whether the piece is in a good enough condition to restore and how many days you may need to book to complete the project. Once you are happy to proceed, we will send you an invoice with payment instructions (via a bank transfer). PLEASE NOTE THE BOOKING TERMS AND CONDITIONS BELOW BEFORE BOOKING.

## **COURSE BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS**

Full payment for the course is due at the time of booking. Payment for fabric (if ordered through Hamilton & Hodson) is due 7 days' prior to the course date.

Once a booking has been made, we are unable to offer any refunds or cancellations. We are a small company and offer courses with very low student numbers providing the best possible learning experience. It is very difficult and time-consuming to fill places at short notice so we have to be strict on this policy.

The exceptions are:

- You need to change the date(s) of your course and it is more than 8 weeks' in advance of the original course date. We will endeavour to find a replacement student but will need to charge an admin fee of £20.00.
- You are displaying Covid-related symptoms and have received a positive PCR test result. In this case, we will need to see the positive test result and will endeavour to find an alternative date for you or if requested, a full refund.
- Hamilton & Hodson having to cancel a workshop. This would only happen if we don't have enough students booked on to a course (this rarely happens!). In this case, we will offer an alternative date or if requested, a full refund.

If a national or local lockdown due to Covid is in place, we will reschedule courses as soon as we possibly can. We will contact booked students directly with our proposed plans.

If you have any questions about our terms and conditions, please do get in touch.

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!**

