Evaluation of the Major Project and its Relationship to the Statement of Intent Band 4/5

Documents some of the major project and relates the major project to the statement of intent.

Evaluation Of Project

Statement of Intent

I fulfilled my original statement of intent, which was to design and construct a wine cabinet that would be functional, attractive and a focal point in a room.

Designs

I spent a long time researching the cabinet and at the time I thought I was spending too much time on this part of the project. Now that it is finished I am pleased I did extend the planned time. I was able to look at more examples and really work out what I liked and disliked so that I knew exactly what I wanted. I think this process made my cabinet design better. I am proud of how the finished product looks, and other people (sprayer, family carpenter & parents) have admired it too.

Product

I am extremely pleased with the cabinet. It fulfilled my intent of a practical yet decorative cabinet.

The workmanship is of a high standard and looks impressive. I am also pleased that I was able to get to the joiners and for them to join certain areas of my cabinet (2 shelves) as this saved me a lot of precious time in the construction process, and I was able to compare my method of joining with theirs.

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Processes

I am pleased with the way I handled the construction of the products. I feel that they are well made and look very professional. I am especially pleased with how I rescued the top after my teacher had suggested to screw the top to the cabinet with screws, as the finished product looked ugly and unattractive.

I think the stability and appearance of the drawers would have been improved by using dovetails, but as I was pressed for time the use of the pin joints was a good alternative as they weren't a hassle to construct and also saved me time.

Materials

The finish applied to the cabinet proved to be what I wanted, as in my justification I was aiming for the grain to be clearly seen, natural materials to be used if possible, an Australian product was used and a sheen achieved.

With further suggestion from the sprayer, he used a coat of sanding sealer before applying the Estapol Satin as this brought the grain out and added extra appeal to the finished product.

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Project Timeline

I had planned to complete the construction of the cabinet by the end of week 26, but it was not finished until week 45.

I really underestimated the time and effort that needed to be put in to this construction, and this area of the construction process needed a lot more logical thinking on my behalf.

My plan was to fully complete all the practical parts of the project by week 26 (end of term 1) and give myself plenty of time to update and complete my folios, but this time ended up being the allowance for my timeline overrun. Instead of updating and completing my folios in this time, I put most of my focus on completing the project as soon as possible and working on my folios gradually through this time. Before I finished the cabinet it became obvious that I was getting too far behind my timeline, so I decided that I would need to put in a lot of extra effort. I stayed behind at school on Monday and Tuesday afternoons after school, put in as much effort as I could during sport/study times and worked on parts of it during holiday and trial exam periods.

This decision probably saved me major problems at the end of the project, but it also made extra hassles. I had to check that my teacher checked what I was doing in school time, and was happy to let me do bits at home. Transporting the carcase home was impossible to do by bus, and there was no way it would have fit in my car so I had to ask for assistance from mum as she has a large station wagon which was perfect.

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I also found that the folios took me longer than expected, I should also have planned more time for it. It was much more time consuming than I had realised so I had to look at days when I was free and used these to work on them.

My timeline would have been better if I had spread out my construction process and not have crammed it all up to be completed early. I didn't realise how much harder and more time consuming the construction process was.

Comparison Of Processes

I took 12 pieces of timber to Wolland Carpentry Joinery & Building to have them joined to make 2 separate panels by groove joining with plywood tongues and to be sanded smooth. This was done so that I could compare an industrial process of joining to my own. I noticed that the panels remained a lot straighter and didn't start to bow as much as when I had joined them by biscuits.