

TEXTILE TECHNICIAN

ALSO KNOWN AS:

FABRIC TECHNOLOGIST

TEXTILE QUALITY CONTROLLER

TEXTILE PRODUCTION TECHNICIAN

DIVE INTO THE CUTTING-EDGE WORLD OF TEXTILE INNOVATION.

Blend your technical prowess with creative problem-solving to revolutionise fabric production and quality control as a Textile Technician. In this dynamic role, you'll be the mastermind behind the scenes, ensuring that the latest fashion trends, high-performance sportswear, and even smart textiles move seamlessly from concept to reality. Your expertise will shape the future of textiles, impacting industries from fashion to aerospace and beyond

KEY SKILLS

Skills which may benefit anyone considering a job as a textile technician include:

- ☑ Data analysis
- ☑ Material knowledge
- ☑ Testing techniques
- ☑ Equipment proficiency
- ☑ Problem solving

CAREER PROGRESSION

In this role, you may have the opportunity to progress to other positions. Career progression opportunities include:

- Production Planner
- Business Manager
- Fashion Designer
- Marine Sailmaker

VALUES & ATTRIBUTES

Values and attributes of anyone considering a job as a textile technician include:

- ☑ Attention to detail
- ☑ Innovative
- ☑ Continuous learning
- ☑ Technical Aptitude
- ☑ Team Player
- ☑ Artistic - "Creator"

SALARY EXPECTATION

The expected salary for a Textile Technician can vary across different areas of manufacturing and may vary as you become more experienced.



RELATED INDUSTRIES

- ▶ Textiles, Clothing and Footwear

RECOMMENDED SCHOOL SUBJECTS

- Visual Arts
- Visual Arts in Practice

CORE SCHOOL SUBJECTS

- Essential Mathematics
- Essential English
- Design
- Fashion

JOB OVERVIEW

As a Textile Technician, you play a crucial role in the textile manufacturing industry, combining technical knowledge with practical skills. Your responsibilities span from managing production machinery to conducting quality control tests and improving manufacturing processes.

In this position, you'll work with diverse textile materials, from natural fibres to advanced synthetic fabrics. Your workspace will typically be a combination of a production floor and a laboratory, equipped with textile machinery, testing instruments, and computer systems for process control and data analysis.

Your role often involves collaborating with design teams, production managers, and other technicians to ensure efficient and high-quality textile production. You'll need to be proficient in operating and maintaining textile machinery, familiar with textile testing methods and industry standards, and knowledgeable about the latest advancements in textile technology.

As sustainability becomes increasingly important, you'll also need to consider eco-friendly materials and processes in your work, contributing to the development of more sustainable textile production methods.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

In this role, you will:

1. Set up, adjust, and maintain textile production machinery
2. Monitor and optimise textile manufacturing processes
3. Conduct quality control tests and analyse results
4. Troubleshoot production issues and implement solutions
5. Collaborate with design teams to translate concepts into manufacturable products

HOW TO BECOME A TEXTILE TECHNICIAN

Becoming a Textile Technician typically requires a combination of education and practical experience. Here are some steps to get started as a Textile Technician.

1. If you are at school, you may be able to complete a Certificate II in Apparel, Fashion and Textiles (MST20722). This qualification will give you a good introduction to the occupation and the foundation skills required.
2. You can also apply directly to employers in the textile manufacturing industry. Research potential employers via job search engines, industry associations, or company websites. Even if there are no jobs advertised, it can be a good idea to send a cover letter with your resume expressing your interest.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

A traineeship offers hands-on experience while providing a solid foundation for a career in the industry. You can undertake the following qualification/s as traineeships:

- Certificate III in Apparel, Fashion and Textiles (Textiles Technician)(MST31022)

As a trainee you will combine work with formal training, allowing you to gain practical skills and knowledge in a specific industry while earning a salary.

Duration: Traineeships typically last between 12 to 24 months, depending on the specific program and whether you are working full-time or part-time.

Work and study combination: As a trainee you will work either full-time or part-time while receiving formal training from a Registered Training Organisation (RTO).

Eligibility: Generally, traineeships do not require formal qualifications to enter, making them accessible to a wide range of individuals, including if you are a school leaver or someone looking to change careers.

Completion: On completion you will receive a nationally recognised qualification, showcasing your skill and experience.

Advancing your career

Choosing to advance your career offers exciting opportunities for growth and specialisation. As you gain experience and skills through entry-level positions or initial qualifications, you can explore higher-level vocational education and training options to elevate your expertise. These qualifications can open doors to senior roles allowing you to take on more responsibility, as well as offering a foundation for further education.

To advance your career, or deepen your knowledge in this industry, consider the following qualifications:

- Certificate IV in Textile Design and Technology (MST40122)
- Diploma of Apparel, Fashion and Textiles (MST50122)
- Advanced Diploma of Apparel, Fashion and Textiles (MST60122)

Successful completion of higher-level vocational education and training programs may facilitate your entry into university courses, should you choose to further your academic pursuits.

UNIVERSITY & HIGHER EDUCATION

Universities offer several pathways for aspiring textile technicians to gain the necessary qualifications for career entry. Undergraduate programs in Fashion and Textile Design are available at a range of universities. These bachelor's degrees typically take three years to complete and cover a range of subjects including textile production techniques, design principles, and industry-specific software.

Some universities offer specialised units like "Fashion Textiles and Technology" as part of their curriculum. While specific program names may vary, students can expect to develop a strong foundation in art, design, and textile manufacturing processes. These courses often combine theoretical knowledge with practical skills, preparing graduates for careers in the textile design industry. Additionally, some institutions provide the option to study either on-campus or online, offering flexibility to suit different learning preferences.

Holding a degree in manufacturing, human resources, finance, economics, marketing or management can be helpful if you are considering taking a step into leadership or a business ownership position.