

SSDCL29 Laundry Worker – Mending and Repairs

1. Job role

TCF sub-sector	Commercial Laundry and Linen Services
Functional area	Laundry Operations
Job role	SSDCL29 Laundry Worker – Mending and Repairs
Job role description	Supports the maintenance, restoration and repair of textiles, garments and linen items within commercial laundry operations to ensure products remain serviceable, presentable and compliant with quality standards. In the Australian laundry industry—where textile longevity, presentation standards and inventory continuity are critical—the Laundry Worker – Mending and Repairs is responsible for inspecting, repairing and restoring linen and garments including uniforms, hospital linen and hospitality textiles. The role supports operational efficiency by extending textile life, maintaining accurate item identification and ensuring damaged items are either repaired or removed from circulation in accordance with workplace procedures.
Performance expectations	- Inspecting washed and dried items for tears, missing buttons, broken zippers and damaged seams - Repairing textiles using industrial sewing and overlocking equipment - Applying thermal patches and reinforcement repairs to damaged linen - Adjusting and altering garments including staff uniforms where required - Reattaching RFID tags, barcodes and laundry identification labels - Identifying and removing condemned items from circulation - Maintaining quality standards for repaired linen and garments - Supporting workflow continuity between repair, finishing and dispatch areas - Ensuring compliance with workplace health, safety and equipment handling procedures - Meeting production and repair turnaround requirements
Specialisation	Textile repair, garment alterations, thermal patching, industrial sewing, RFID and barcode remarking
Application in other Textile, Clothing and Footwear (TCF) sectors	- Commercial laundry and linen services supporting textile maintenance and repair operations - Hospitality services supporting garment and linen presentation standards

	• Healthcare and aged care services supporting repair and maintenance of institutional textiles • Apparel manufacturing and alterations supporting garment repair and resizing • Textile restoration services supporting repair and refurbishment of textile products • Manufacturing and processing industries supporting product inspection and repair functions
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2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	• Inspecting linen and garments for damage after washing and drying • Repairing tears, seams, hems and closures using industrial sewing equipment • Operating overlockers, button machines and thermal patching equipment • Resizing and altering garments and uniforms as required • Reattaching laundry tags, barcodes and RFID chips • Sorting repairable and condemned textile items • Maintaining repair equipment and workstations in clean condition • Supporting production teams to maintain workflow continuity • Following workplace health, safety and textile handling procedures
Critical work functions	• Maintaining textile quality and extending product lifespan • Ensuring accurate identification and tracking of repaired items • Preventing damaged items from returning to circulation • Supporting production efficiency through timely repairs • Ensuring compliance with safety and textile handling standards • Adapting to varying repair volumes and operational priorities

3. Technical skills

Textile inspection	Identifying tears, wear, stains and damage in linen and garments
Industrial sewing	Operating sewing machines, overlockers and repair equipment safely
Thermal patching	Applying heat-seal patches and reinforcement repairs
Garment alterations	Resizing and adjusting garments and uniforms
RFID and barcode handling	Reattaching and maintaining textile identification systems
Repair workflow coordination	Managing repair staging and production priorities
Handling procedures	Applying correct handling techniques for different textile types

4. Generic Skills

Teamwork	Working collaboratively with laundry production and finishing teams
Communication	Communicating repair requirements and quality concerns

Time management	Managing repair workloads to meet production schedules
Attention to detail	Ensuring repairs meet quality and presentation standards
Adaptability	Supporting varying textile repair and alteration requirements
Problem solving	Addressing repair issues and textile handling challenges
Safety awareness	Applying safe equipment handling and workplace safety practices

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	• Adopting automated textile inspection and repair technologies • Using digital tracking systems for repaired linen and garments • Supporting RFID-enabled inventory and repair management systems • Applying advanced textile restoration and reinforcement techniques • Enhancing workflow efficiency through integrated repair coordination • Supporting sustainability through textile reuse and lifecycle extension
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	MSTSS00003 Introduction to Laundry Operations Skill Set or equivalent
Advanced development	Certificate II or III in Laundry Operations, Clothing Production or Textile Repair with pathway to specialist repair and supervisory roles

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Laundry Worker – Mending and Repairs → Senior Repair Operator → Team Leader → Production Supervisor → Operations Manager
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	AQF Level 2
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 4
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	Laundry Worker / Textile Repair Worker / Sewing Machine Operator



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