

# SSFOT19 Shoe and Boot Maker Apprentice

## 1. Job role

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| TCF sub-sector                                                    | Footwear Production                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Functional area                                                   | Craft [artisanal] production                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Job role                                                          | SSFOT19 Shoe and Boot Maker Apprentice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Job role description                                              | An apprentice undertaking structured trade training to become a qualified Shoe and Boot Maker. Works under supervision in artisanal footwear production or specialist repair and restoration, developing foundational skills across cutting, closing, lasting, assembly, finishing and repair techniques.                                                                                                                                   |
| Performance expectations                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate progressive development of craft skills</li> <li>• Follow instructions and technical specifications accurately</li> <li>• Maintain safe and organised work practices</li> <li>• Produce work to required quality standards under supervision</li> <li>• Develop understanding of traditional construction methods</li> <li>• Meet agreed training and competency milestones</li> </ul> |
| Specialisation                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bespoke and small-batch footwear production</li> <li>• Traditional construction methods</li> <li>• Specialist footwear repair and restoration</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Application in other Textile, Clothing and Footwear (TCF) sectors | Foundation pathway transferable to leather goods production, saddlery and related craft industries.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

## 2. Key tasks and critical work functions

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| Key tasks               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist with material selection and preparation</li> <li>• Support cutting and component preparation</li> <li>• Operate basic sewing and assembly equipment under supervision</li> <li>• Assist with lasting and finishing processes</li> <li>• Maintain tools and equipment</li> <li>• Undertake basic repair and restoration tasks</li> <li>• Complete structured training and competency assessments</li> </ul>                                          |
| Critical work functions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing accuracy in measurement and pattern handling</li> <li>• Maintaining safe handling of tools and machinery</li> <li>• Supporting workflow within small-batch production</li> <li>• Learning traditional construction techniques</li> <li>• Maintaining quality standards under supervision</li> <li>• Building foundational repair and restoration capability</li> <li>• Demonstrating reliability and commitment to trade development</li> </ul> |

## 3. Technical skills

|                                    |                                                          |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Basic cutting techniques           | Use hand tools and simple machinery under supervision.   |
| Foundational stitching skills      | Operate sewing machines for simple upper assembly tasks. |
| Material identification            | Recognise basic leather types and characteristics.       |
| Pattern interpretation             | Read and follow simple patterns and specifications.      |
| Basic lasting and assembly support | Assist with shaping and sole attachment processes.       |
| Repair fundamentals                | Assist with minor repairs and component replacement.     |
| Tool maintenance                   | Clean and maintain tools and workstations.               |
| WHS compliance                     | Follow workplace safety procedures.                      |

#### 4. Generic Skills

| Generic Skill        | Brief description                                  |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Willingness to learn | Demonstrate commitment to trade skill development. |
| Attention to detail  | Maintain accuracy in basic craft tasks.            |
| Communication        | Seek guidance and clarify instructions.            |
| Time management      | Meet training and production deadlines.            |
| Teamwork             | Work collaboratively with qualified tradespersons. |
| Initiative           | Take responsibility for continuous improvement.    |

#### 5. Emerging skills

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| Emerging skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exposure to digital pattern systems</li> <li>• Sustainable material awareness</li> <li>• Integration of traditional and digital techniques</li> <li>• Custom measurement technologies</li> <li>• Digital production documentation</li> <li>• Heritage restoration awareness</li> </ul> |
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#### 6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

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|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Entry-level preparation | MST30416 Certificate III in Footwear.            |
| Advanced development    | MST40316 Certificate IV in Custom-Made Footwear. |

#### 7. Job progression

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| Possible job progression | Possible job progression: Apprentice Shoe and Boot Maker → Qualified Shoe and Boot Maker → Master Shoemaker → Workshop Owner |
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#### 8. Classification

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| Australian Qualifications Framework | AQF Level 3 (upon completion of apprenticeship) |
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|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)<br>Skill Levels             | Skill Level 4 (Apprentice / Trainee)                       |
| Open Source Classification of<br>Occupations for Australia (OSCA) | Shoe and Boot Maker Apprentice - Craft Footwear Production |



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