

CS63 Patternmaker / Digital Patternmaker

1. Job role

TCF sub-sector	Cross-sector
Job role	CS63 Patternmaker / Digital Patternmaker
Job role description	Develops patterns for products using manual drafting techniques and/or digital pattern making systems to meet design, fit and production requirements. The role interprets design specifications, creates and modifies patterns, supports sampling and prototyping, and ensures patterns are production-ready. Increasingly, the role involves digital pattern making, grading and integration with CAD/CAM systems to support efficient, scalable and accurate manufacturing.
Performance expectations	- Producing accurate patterns aligned with design specifications - Ensuring correct fit, sizing and proportions - Supporting efficient sampling and prototyping processes - Maintaining consistency across graded sizes - Minimising material waste through efficient pattern layout - Ensuring patterns are production-ready and technically accurate - Supporting integration with digital design and production systems - Maintaining documentation and version control of patterns - Meeting development timelines - Collaborating effectively with design and production teams
Specialisation (optional)	Manual pattern drafting, digital pattern making (CAD), grading, marker making, fit development, technical pattern engineering
Application in other Textile, Clothing and Footwear (TCF) sectors	- Apparel production supporting garment development and sizing - Textile product development supporting soft goods and technical textiles - Footwear production supporting component pattern development - Leather goods production supporting bags, accessories and small goods - Uniform and workwear production supporting functional garment development - Costume and bespoke production supporting custom-fit garments - Manufacturing industries supporting pattern-based product design

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	• Interpreting design specifications and technical drawings • Drafting patterns manually or using CAD software • Developing and modifying patterns for fit and production • Grading patterns across multiple sizes • Creating markers for efficient fabric usage • Supporting sample development and prototyping • Testing fit and making pattern adjustments • Maintaining pattern documentation and version control
Critical work functions	• Ensuring accuracy of pattern dimensions and specifications • Maintaining consistency across size ranges • Supporting correct garment fit and functionality • Minimising material waste through efficient pattern design • Ensuring patterns are production-ready • Supporting collaboration between design and production • Maintaining data integrity in digital systems

3. Technical skills

Pattern drafting	Creating patterns using manual and digital methods
Digital pattern making (CAD)	Using CAD systems for pattern development and grading
Grading	Scaling patterns across size ranges
Marker making	Creating layouts for efficient material usage
Fit analysis	Evaluating garment fit and making adjustments
Technical documentation	Maintaining accurate pattern records
CAD/CAM integration	Integrating patterns with production systems

4. Generic Skills

Attention to detail	Ensuring precision in measurements and specifications
Analytical thinking	Evaluating fit and technical requirements
Problem solving	Resolving fit and production issues
Communication	Working with designers and production teams
Time management	Meeting development timelines
Collaboration	Supporting cross-functional development processes

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	• Using advanced 3D pattern making and simulation software • Integrating digital patterns with automated cutting systems • Supporting mass customisation and digital sizing systems • Using cloud-based collaboration platforms • Applying sustainability principles in pattern efficiency • Using AI-assisted design and pattern development tools
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	MST20722 Certificate II in Apparel, Fashion and Textiles or equivalent
Advanced development	MST50122 Diploma of Apparel, Fashion and Textiles or equivalent

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Production Assistant → Pattern Maker → Senior Pattern Maker → Technical Designer → Product Development Manager
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	2-5
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 2-3
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	Pattern Maker / Technical Designer - TCF



Skills Insight is a Jobs and Skills Council funded by the Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.