

SSAPP09 Garment Finisher

Disclaimer

These Occupational Frameworks and Skill Profiles have been developed as workforce planning, occupational mapping and skills reference resources for the Australian textile, clothing and footwear (TCF) industry. They are intended to describe the typical functions, responsibilities, skills and capabilities associated with occupations across the industry.

These documents are not intended to replace or override industrial instruments or employment arrangements, including awards, enterprise agreements, employment contracts, position descriptions, classification structures, licensing or regulatory requirements, or other statutory obligations. Where differences arise, the relevant industrial, legislative or regulatory requirements take precedence. The Skill Profiles should be used as complementary reference documents to support workforce planning, career development, training and skills recognition.

1. Job role

TCF sub-sector	Apparel production
Functional area	Finishing and Dispatch
Job role	SSAPP09 Garment Finisher
Job role description	Performs final finishing operations on garments in apparel manufacturing environments to ensure products meet required quality, presentation and customer specifications. The role includes removing loose threads, attaching labels and trims, inspecting garment quality, pressing or steaming garments where required and preparing finished garments for packing or dispatch. Garment Finishers work closely with sewing operators, quality control inspectors and packing staff to ensure garments meet production and retailer standards.
Performance expectations	• Ensure finished garments meet quality and presentation standards. • Remove loose threads and minor defects from completed garments. • Attach labels, tags or trims as required. • Prepare garments for pressing, packing or dispatch. • Identify and report garment defects or quality issues. • Maintain consistent finishing standards across production batches. • Meet production finishing targets and schedules. • Maintain safe and organised finishing workstations.
Specialisation	Garment trimming, final garment inspection, label attachment, thread trimming and preparation of garments for pressing, packing and dispatch.
Application in other TCF sectors	Transferable to other TCF industry sectors in which final finishing of product is required.

2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	• Trim loose threads and clean finished garments. • Attach labels, care tags and brand tags. • Inspect garments for finishing defects. • Prepare garments for pressing or steaming. • Assist with folding and preparation for packing. • Report garment defects or sewing issues. • Handle garments carefully to avoid damage. • Maintain finishing records where required.
Critical work functions	• Ensuring garments meet required quality standards. • Supporting efficient garment finishing operations. • Maintaining consistent garment presentation. • Preventing damaged or defective garments from entering dispatch. • Supporting efficient production workflow. • Maintaining product consistency for retailers and customers.

3. Technical skills

Thread trimming techniques	Remove loose threads and excess stitching cleanly.
Garment inspection	Identify minor garment defects during finishing.
Label and tag attachment	Attach brand labels, swing tags and care labels.
Garment handling	Handle garments carefully to prevent creasing or damage.
Basic garment pressing support	Prepare garments for pressing and finishing.
Production workflow understanding	Understand garment manufacturing and finishing processes.
Quality awareness	Recognise quality requirements for finished garments.
Workplace safety	Apply WHS practices when handling equipment and garments.

4. Generic Skills

Attention to detail	Ensure garments are free from finishing defects.
Time management	Maintain production finishing schedules.
Communication	Report garment defects or production issues.
Teamwork	Work collaboratively with sewing and finishing teams.
Reliability	Follow finishing procedures consistently.
Organisation	Maintain clean and organised workstations.

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	• Automated garment finishing systems. • Digital production tracking systems. • Sustainable garment finishing practices. • Improved garment quality inspection technologies.
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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	MST40222 Certificate IV in Apparel and Fashion or equivalent

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Garment Finishing Assistant → Garment Finisher → Senior Finishing Operator → Production Supervisor
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	AQF Level 2-4
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 3
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	399434 Garment Technician



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