

SSAPP30 Garment Dyeing Technician

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
Functional area	Knitwear production
Job role	SSAPP30 Garment Dyeing Technician
Job role description	Operates and monitors dyeing processes used to colour finished knitwear garments. The role involves preparing dye baths, operating garment dyeing machines, monitoring temperature, chemical concentrations and dye uptake, and ensuring garments achieve consistent colour quality and fastness. Garment Dyeing Technicians work closely with textile technicians, quality inspectors and production teams to ensure dyed garments meet product specifications and brand standards.
Performance expectations	• Prepare dye formulations according to production specifications. • Operate garment dyeing machines safely and efficiently. • Monitor dye bath temperature, chemical levels and processing times. • Ensure colour consistency and dye penetration across garments. • Identify and correct dyeing faults or colour variation. • Maintain safe handling of dyes and chemicals. • Meet production schedules and dyeing batch targets. • Maintain clean and compliant dyeing work areas.
Specialisation	Garment dyeing, knitwear colour finishing, dye formulation, garment wash and dye processes, and colour consistency management for knitted garments.
Application in other TCF sectors	• Textile dyeing and finishing facilities processing fabrics. • Apparel manufacturing operations using garment-dyed products. • Technical textile finishing where colour treatments are applied.

	Textile processing industries requiring dye chemistry and colour control.
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2. Key tasks and critical work functions

Key tasks	- Prepare dye mixtures according to product specifications. - Load garments into dyeing machines. - Monitor dyeing cycles including temperature, time and agitation. - Test colour samples during dyeing processes. - Rinse, wash and finish dyed garments. - Inspect garments for colour consistency. - Maintain dyeing equipment and work areas. - Record dyeing batch data and production information.
Critical work functions	- Achieving consistent colour across garment batches. - Maintaining accurate dye formulations and chemical handling. - Ensuring garments meet colour and quality standards. - Preventing colour variation and dyeing defects. - Supporting efficient textile finishing operations. - Ensuring environmental and chemical safety compliance.

3. Technical skills

Garment dyeing machine operation	Operate garment dyeing machines and control processing cycles.
Dye chemistry knowledge	Understand dye types, chemical reactions and colour formulation.
Colour matching	Monitor colour results and adjust dye processes.
Temperature and process control	Control temperature and time parameters during dyeing.
Fabric and fibre knowledge	Understand dye behaviour across different fibres.
Quality inspection	Identify dyeing faults such as uneven colour or staining.
Process documentation	Record dye batches and production parameters.
Workplace safety	Follow WHS and chemical handling procedures.

4. Generic Skills

Attention to detail	Maintain colour accuracy and product consistency.
Problem solving	Identify dyeing faults and adjust processes.
Communication	Report quality issues and production information.
Teamwork	Work collaboratively with production and finishing teams.
Time management	Meet dyeing production schedules.
Organisation	Maintain safe and organised dyeing work areas.

5. Emerging skills

Emerging skills	- Low-impact and sustainable dyeing technologies. - Digital colour management systems.
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	• Water and chemical reduction processes. • Automated dye dosing systems. • Environmentally responsible textile finishing technologies.
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6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

Entry-level preparation	MST40122 Certificate IV in Textile Design and Technology or equivalent.
Advanced development	Bachelor's degree in Textile Production, Textile Technology, Fabric Technology or Textile Finishing.

7. Job progression

Possible job progression	Textile Processing Operator → Garment Dyeing Technician → Senior Dye Technician → Textile Production Supervisor
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8. Classification

Australian Qualifications Framework	AQF Level 4
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels	Skill Level 4
Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA)	731432 Textile or Footwear Production Machine Operator. OSCA specialisation: Textile Dyeing and Finishing Machine Operator



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