

# SSNST11 Multiskilled Fabric Dyeing Operator

## 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

|                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| TCF sub-sector                   | Natural and Synthetic Textile Manufacturing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Functional area                  | Fabric Production                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Job role                         | SSNST11 Multiskilled Fabric Dyeing Operator                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Job role description             | <p>Operates, monitors and supports batch and continuous fabric dyeing systems used in the manufacture of natural and synthetic textiles. The role prepares dye formulations, operates dyeing equipment, monitors colour quality and controls dyehouse production processes to achieve product specifications.</p> <p>The role works across woven, knitted and nonwoven fabrics using dyeing technologies including jet, jigger, beam, package, winch and continuous dye ranges. It requires knowledge of textile fibres, dye chemistry, process control and quality requirements.</p> <p>The position collaborates with laboratory personnel, production teams, maintenance technicians and quality staff to maintain efficient, safe and sustainable dyehouse operations.</p> |
| Performance expectations         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Producing fabrics that meet colour and quality specifications.</li> <li>Maintaining colour consistency and process control.</li> <li>Operating dyeing equipment safely and efficiently.</li> <li>Preparing accurate dye formulations.</li> <li>Minimising defects, waste and reprocessing.</li> <li>Maintaining production documentation and traceability.</li> <li>Supporting environmental compliance.</li> <li>Contributing to productivity and continuous improvement.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Specialisation                   | Batch dyeing, continuous dyeing, dye formulation, colour matching, textile finishing, dyehouse production.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Application in other TCF sectors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apparel manufacturing.</li> <li>Furnishing textiles.</li> <li>Industrial and technical textiles.</li> <li>Automotive textiles.</li> <li>Medical textiles.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performance textiles.</li> </ul> |
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## 2. Key tasks and critical work functions

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| Key tasks               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare dye formulations.</li> <li>• Operate batch and continuous dyeing equipment.</li> <li>• Monitor process parameters.</li> <li>• Inspect colour quality.</li> <li>• Adjust dyeing processes.</li> <li>• Complete washing and after-treatment.</li> <li>• Maintain production records.</li> <li>• Perform routine operator maintenance.</li> <li>• Follow WHS and environmental procedures.</li> </ul> |
| Critical work functions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain colour consistency.</li> <li>• Ensure compliance with specifications.</li> <li>• Prevent dyeing defects.</li> <li>• Support efficient production.</li> <li>• Maintain traceability.</li> <li>• Support quality assurance.</li> <li>• Minimise waste and resource use.</li> <li>• Maintain safe dyehouse operations.</li> </ul>                                                                    |

## 3. Technical skills

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| Dyehouse operations            | Operating batch and continuous dyeing systems.                   |
| Dye chemistry                  | Understanding dyes, auxiliaries and fibre compatibility.         |
| Dye formulation                | Preparing accurate dye recipes and chemical additions.           |
| Process control                | Monitoring temperature, pH, liquor ratio and cycle parameters.   |
| Colour quality                 | Assessing shade consistency and colour performance.              |
| Textile knowledge              | Understanding fibres, fabrics and dyeing behaviour.              |
| Troubleshooting                | Identifying and resolving dyeing faults.                         |
| Documentation and traceability | Maintaining production and quality records.                      |
| Environmental compliance       | Supporting chemical, wastewater and sustainability requirements. |

## 4. Generic Skills

|                     |                                                            |
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| Attention to detail | Maintaining colour accuracy and product quality.           |
| Communication       | Working with laboratory, production and quality personnel. |
| Problem solving     | Resolving dyeing and production issues.                    |
| Teamwork            | Supporting integrated dyehouse operations.                 |
| Time management     | Meeting production schedules.                              |

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| Adaptability    | Working across different dyeing technologies.          |
| Reliability     | Maintaining consistent production performance.         |
| Professionalism | Following safety, quality and environmental standards. |

## 5. Emerging skills

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| Emerging skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital colour management.</li> <li>• Automated dye dispensing.</li> <li>• Industry 4.0 process monitoring.</li> <li>• AI-assisted process optimisation.</li> <li>• Sustainable dye chemistry.</li> <li>• Water recycling technologies.</li> <li>• Circular textile manufacturing.</li> </ul> |
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## 6. VET Qualifications and Skill Sets

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| Entry-level preparation | MST40122 Certificate IV in Textile Design and Technology or equivalent.                            |
| Advanced development    | Advanced enterprise, supplier and technical training in dyehouse operations and colour management. |

## 7. Job progression

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| Possible job progression | Dyehouse Assistant → Fabric Dyeing Operator → Multiskilled Fabric Dyeing Operator → Senior Dyeing Operator → Dyehouse Team Leader → Dyehouse Supervisor. |
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## 8. Classification

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| Australian Qualifications Framework                            | Level 3-4.                                               |
| Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Skill Levels             | Skill Level 4.                                           |
| Open Source Classification of Occupations for Australia (OSCA) | 7314432 Textile or Footwear Production Machine Operator. |



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