



Careers in manufacturing: precision trades

Jewellery

This information sheet covers the following jewellery occupations within the precision trades sector:

- **Manufacturing jeweller**
- **Jewellery designer.**

Manufacturing jeweller

Jewellers make and repair jewellery, such as rings, brooches, chains and bracelets, and craft objects out of precious metals, and cut, shape and polish rough gemstones to produce fashion and industrial jewels.

Tasks include:

- designing and illustrating jewellery and precious metal objects
- shaping precious metal by cutting, filing, beating and bending, using specialised hand and power tools
- melting precious metals
- assembling articles by soldering, screwing, riveting and otherwise joining
- securing precious stones in retaining claws and ridges, and smoothing and checking final settings
- engraving designs on ring settings, brooches, bracelets and other articles
- resizing and pairing jewellery by soldering, replacing and rebuilding worn and broken parts
- appraising the quality and value of jewellery
- finishing and polishing articles using emery paper and buffing machines
- restyling old jewellery.

Specialisations:

- Gem setter
- Gemmologist
- Engraver
- Gold and silversmith
- Lapidarist
- Opal polisher

Relevant qualification:

- Certificate III in Jewellery Manufacture

Jewellery designer

Jewellery designers conceptualise and design prototypes and detailed specifications for the manufacture of jewellery and objects for personal adornment, such as watches and spectacles, homewares and other objects, such as trophies and silverware, using metals, precious stones, plastics, engraving, casting and fabrication, to develop designs for mass or batch production or one-off commissions.

Tasks include:

- determining the objectives and constraints of the design brief by consulting with clients and stakeholders
- undertaking product research and analysing functional, commercial, cultural and aesthetic requirements
- formulating design concepts for clothing, textiles, industrial, commercial and consumer products, and jewellery
- preparing sketches, diagrams, illustrations, plans, samples and models to communicate design concepts
- negotiating design solutions with clients, management, and sales and manufacturing staff
- selecting, specifying and recommending functional and aesthetic materials, production methods and finishes for manufacture
- detailing and documenting the selected design for production
- preparing and commissioning prototypes and samples
- supervising the preparation of patterns, programs and tooling, and the manufacture process.

Relevant qualifications:

- Diploma of Jewellery/Object Design
- Advanced Diploma of Jewellery/Object Design

This information sheet has been produced with assistance from the Australian Government.

