



Careers in manufacturing: textiles, clothing and footwear

Canvas and leather goods

Canvas and leather goods makers make and repair boots, shoes, leather goods, canvas and sailcloth articles, and related products.

Canvas and leather goods makers may:

- read and interpret technical drawings and specifications in order to produce patterns according to drawings
- select and measure material, and mark out and cut with shears or power cutters
- set up and maintain industrial sewing machines
- sew pieces of fabric together by hand, on domestic or industrial sewing machines
- hem articles, inserting rope if required, attach eyelets, grommets and fasteners
- attach ropes using hand tools and treat material for water and rot proofing
- operate high frequency and hot air welding equipment if handling PVC material
- make and repair sails for yachts from synthetic materials (and occasionally canvas).

Occupations within the textiles, clothing and footwear sector include:

- Canvas goods fabricator
- Leather goods maker
- Sail maker
- Shoemaker/repairer.

Canvas goods fabricator

Canvas good fabricators fabricate and repair canvas and related products, such as awnings, tents, tarpaulins, horse rugs and recreational vehicle annexes.

Relevant qualifications:

- Certificate II in Textile Fabrication
- Certificate III in Textile Fabrication
- Certificate IV in Textile Technology and Production

Leather goods maker

Leather goods makers manufacture and repair leather products, such as handbags, wallets, gloves, belts, harnesses, saddles and other saddlery (horse riding equipment). Some leather goods makers specialise in saddles and saddlery, harnesses and horse blankets, footwear, hats, clothing, upholstery or other specialty leather goods.

Relevant qualifications:

- Certificate II in Leather Production
- Certificate III in Leather Production
- Certificate II in Millinery
- Certificate III in Millinery
- Certificate IV in Millinery

Sail maker

Sail makers fabricate and repair sails and other articles from sailcloth. They lay out, cut, assemble and repair sails that are predominately made from high tech textiles. They also are involved in lamination processes where woven cloth is sandwiched between two films of Mylar, then baked under pressure.

Relevant qualifications:

- Certificate II in Textile Fabrication
- Certificate III in Textile Fabrication

Shoemaker/repairer

Shoemakers/repairers make and repair all kinds of footwear, including shoes, boots and sandals using a variety of hand tools and machinery. They may perform a variety of tasks depending on their area of specialisation.

Relevant qualifications:

- Certificate II in Footwear Production (Intermediate)
- Certificate II in Footwear Production (Complex or Multiple Processes)
- Certificate II in Footwear Repair
- Certificate III in Footwear Repair
- Certificate III in Footwear Production
- Certificate IV in Custom Made Footwear
- Diploma of Medical Grade Footwear

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