



## Farming

### WOOL CLASSER

#### WHAT'S THE JOB ABOUT?

- **Classing wool**

Inspecting each fleece to determine its type according to physical characteristics (staple length and strength, fibre diameter, colour) and classing it into lines to meet processors requirements and to optimise growers' returns.

- **Managing the wool handling team**

Instructing the wool handlers and supervising the picking up, skirting, rolling and pressing of the fleeces.

- **Implementing quality assurance measures**

Eliminating contamination and maximising the value of the wool clip by ensuring that the shed is kept clean, skirting is efficient and the appropriate lines of wool are prepared.

- **Maintaining the wool book and other records**

Record the details of all the bales as they are pressed and prepare wool clip documentation

- **Advising the woolgrower**

Advising the grower on the wool harvesting operation and ways to improve it, and on marketing options.

- **Other shed duties**

In small sheds the classer can work as the skirter and presser and may also supervise the whole team of shearers and wool handlers.

- **Owner classers**

The owner of the farm can perform the role of wool classer for their own clip, provided they are registered by the Australian Wool Exchange (AWEX) as an owner classer.





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### WORK CONDITIONS

- Wool classers usually work in a shearing shed supervising the team preparing the wool.
- Wool classers are responsible for all areas of preparation of the wool clip for sale.
- The number of days spent in each shed will depend on the number of shearing stands in the shed and the size of the team and the flock.
- Hours and pay rates are determined by awards with regular breaks during the day.
- Wool classers may be hired by a shearing contractor or directly by the farmer.
- Sufficient work may be available in the local area allowing travel to and from home on a daily basis or the wool handler may live and work away from home for periods of time.

### EXPERIENCE AND RELATED TRAINING

- To be employed as a wool classer you must complete a national qualification and be registered with AWEX..
- Professional wool classers must complete the Certificate 4 in Wool Classing, while owner classers must complete the Certificate III in Clip Preparation
- You can have your skills recognised by applying for credit towards a qualification with a training provider.
- You can complete training in areas like wool valuing and wool industry description to further develop your skills.





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Career path	Training Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Owner classer</li> </ul> <p>You are able to class the wool clip from your own property.</p>	<p>VOCATIONAL TRAINING</p> <p>Certificate 3 in Wool Clip Preparation</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wool classer</li> </ul> <p>You are a professional wool classer working across a range of sheds, or a wool grower who wishes to class their own clip.</p>	<p>VOCATIONAL TRAINING</p> <p>Certificate 4 in Wool Classing</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wool appraiser and valuer</li> </ul> <p>You work in a wool selling centre assessing the quality of wool, putting bales into lots to maximise the price at auction and valuing lines to provide advice to wool growers.</p>	<p>VOCATIONAL TRAINING</p> <p>Certificate 4 in Wool Classing</p>

## Related Jobs

- Shearer
- Shed Overseer
- Shearing Contractor
- Farm Manager
- Farmer
- Wool broker



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