



## Processing Wool

### TEXTILE DESIGNER

#### ALSO CALLED

- Product developer
- Merchandiser



#### WHAT'S THE JOB ABOUT?

- **Gathering information about the target market**  
Research, consumer surveys, sales potential, competing products, trend and colour forecasting
- **Producing ideas and designs for textiles and surfaces**  
Printed, woven or knitted textiles, non-woven fibres, repeat surface pattern and graphic design
- **Designing fabrics for fashion and home ware**  
Apparel, T-shirts, shoes, hats, bags, soft furnishings, wallpaper, bed-linen, table-linen, automotive
- **Making design decisions relating to final use of the fabric**  
Colour, construction, surface pattern, weight and yarn composition, suitability, costing, sustainability and life cycle assessment
- **Translating designs into marketable fabrics**  
Using computer-aided design (CAD) systems, producing finished artwork, storyboarding, conversion, communicating design specifications to production team and manufacturing source
- **Liaising with staff and customers**  
Clients, marketing and sales teams, managers, buyers, textile manufacturers, apparel manufacturers, supply chain providers



## Processing Wool

### WORK CONDITIONS

- Textile designers work for large and small textile manufacturers and retailers or may set up their own design studio.
- Work may take place in office studios in a company environment, cooperative groups sharing resources, SOHS (small office home office) small business premises.
- Textile designers may work on their own, as part of a team or monitor the work of others.
- The work of individual designers is promoted at industry and graduate shows, design organisations and via the web.
- Opportunities exist to travel both within Australia and overseas for work.
- Textile designers work in close cooperation with fashion, graphic, interior and automotive designers and marketing and sales teams.
- Some textile designers have established successful fashion houses.
- Designers working for in-house studios and TCF (textiles, clothing and footwear) manufacturers usually have structured hours with overtime during busy periods.
- Freelance designers may work long and irregular hours in their own businesses.
- Business management skills are essential for the successful operation of a textile design studio.

### EXPERIENCE AND RELATED TRAINING

- Textile designers should have a creative ability, illustration and design skills, technical specification skills and colour and trend forecasting awareness.
- Good communication and problem-solving skills and the ability to work both independently and in a team environment are essential.
- To be employed as a textile designer you should have a relevant qualification.
- If you are already working at this level you can have your skills recognised by applying for a qualification with a training provider.
- Offshore work often requires proficiency in the language of the host country, especially technical language.



## Processing Wool

Career path	Training Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Junior Design Assistant</li> </ul> <p>You undertake some of the above tasks under supervision.</p>	<p>VOCATIONAL EDUCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate 4 in Textile Design and Printing</li> <li>• Certificate 4 in Design</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Textile Craftsperson</li> </ul> <p>You are a self-managing textile designer with the skills to establish a small crafts studio.</p>	<p>VOCATIONAL EDUCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diploma of Arts (Studio Textiles and Design) (or equivalent)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Textile Designer</li> </ul> <p>You undertake the above tasks in a textile design studio.</p>	<p>TERTIARY EDUCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Degree in Arts (Textile Design) (or equivalent)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Textile Design Teacher</li> </ul> <p>You have undertaken postgraduate research and have been recognised in the industry and design community for your professional expertise.</p>	<p>TERTIARY EDUCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Postgraduate Study in a related field</li> </ul>

### Related Jobs

- [Clothing production worker](#)
- [Fashion designer](#)
- [Fashion sales associate](#)

[CLICK HERE TO GO TO ACTIVITIES](#)

