PROCESSING WOOL

TEXTILE MECHANIC

ALSO CALLED

• Mechanic
• TCF (Textile, Clothing and Footwear) mechanic
• Fitter mechanic
• Textile machine mechanic

WHAT’S THE JOB ABOUT?

• Setting up new machinery
  Assembling machinery parts, installing in position in production line, calibrating with tools and instruments, testing for correct operation

• Setting machinery for production run
  Adjusting mechanical settings for fleece, yarn or fabric type and thickness, changing gears, replacing consumables such as brushes, spools of yarn, thread or cottons

• Undertaking routine maintenance
  Lubricating, greasing and oiling moving parts, replacing filters and belts, changing needles, checking safety guards, cleaning machinery

• Diagnosing and repairing faulty machines or parts
  Identifying and replacing worn or broken parts, reporting major faults to supervisor, resetting machine for optimum productivity

WORK CONDITIONS

• The work of a textile mechanic is very practical and usually takes place on the production line.

• Work must be carried out quickly and efficiently to minimise disruptions to the production process.

• Hours are usually set and overtime and shift work may be required.

• Workers may encounter Occupational Health and Safety issues such as noise and machines with many moving and sharp parts.

• Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided as necessary.
EXPERIENCE AND RELATED TRAINING

• To be employed as a textile mechanic you must have formal trade qualifications or extensive experience.

• You can undertake vocational training before starting a job or in a traineeship whilst working.

• Employers will provide on-the-job induction and training and may require you to do some further vocational training.

• If you are already working at this level, you can have your skills recognised by applying for a qualification with a training provider.

• Some training organisations and machinery manufacturers and employers provide specialised courses about particular machinery.

• Depending on the type of production textile mechanics may become proficient as knitting, sewing machine, spinning, tufting or weaving mechanics.

• Opportunities exist for post trade specialisation in pneumatics, hydraulics, robotics or computerised machinery.
### Career path

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| You operate and adjust the mechanical setting of a range of machines to meet quality requirements. | • Certificate 3 in Early Stage Wool Processing  
|                                         | • Certificate 3 in Textile Production       |
| • TCF mechanic                          | VOCATIONAL TRAINING                        |
| You undertake a range of the above tasks setting, maintaining and repairing machinery. | • Certificate 3 in Engineering - Mechanical Trade (TCF Mechanic) |
| • TCF technician                        | VOCATIONAL TRAINING                        |
| You perform technical functions in various aspects in the design, production and quality control of textile products. | • Certificate 4 in Engineering |

### Related Jobs

- Clothing production worker
- Fashion sales associate
- Textile designer

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