

Purpose Statement

ABC Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Manufacturing Textile Products (600/0257/8)

ABC Awards is a national Awarding Organisation providing qualifications regulated by Ofqual.

Established in 1998, ABC Awards (ABC) is the result of combining more than 180 years of regional examination and assessment practices into one national Awarding Organisation. As a registered charity we are continuing the tradition of our founding organisations who were established by the sector to deliver useful and practical qualifications.

The fashion and textiles sector in the UK covers the whole supply chain, from the processing of raw materials to product manufacture, through wholesale and trading activities, as well as extending to the after-sales servicing of products.

ABC Awards is at the forefront of developments within the fashion and textiles sector and has a suite of vocational qualifications from Level 1 to Level 4 which reflect the skills that employers and providers are looking for in learners and employees. Aspects that are covered range from pattern and grading technology, tailoring, garment technology, pattern production and so much more. Learners undertaking ABC qualifications have the opportunity to gain an understanding and appreciation of the skills required to work in this exciting and fast paced industry, along with the knowledge and experience to excel.

ABC Awards is the leading Awarding Organisation for fashion and textiles work-based vocational qualifications.

Overview

What does this qualification cover?

The ABC Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Manufacturing Textile Products (600/0257/8) provides learners with the technical and practical skills that businesses need. This qualification will enable the learner to specialise in the following job roles: Textile operative, Quality control inspector, Sewing machinist, Knitting operative, Textile technologist, Textile dyeing technician, Team leader/Supervisor.

Benefits for employees

Ability to:

- undertake a flexible vocational learning route into a wide variety of job roles within the textile industry and into higher levels of training and education
- develop knowledge related to the textiles industries
- develop skills in textiles production
- develop their own personal growth and engagement in learning
- demonstrate the achievement of knowledge, skills and understanding needed to carry out a particular role and work in a the field of manufacturing textile products
- achievement a nationally recognised Level 3 qualification that is vocationally focused.

Allow employers to:

- add value to their organisations by increasing productivity
- provide a stream of motivated employees equipped with the creative and business skills required for the future
- improve the productivity and growth of the business.

Key topics/skills/knowledge the learner will cover, which are core and which are optional

The mandatory aspects of this qualification include the fundamentals of health, safety and security at work along with the continuous improvement of operations. There are a various optional units which can enable learners to specialise, depending upon their job role:

- service, configure, calibrate and sustain machinery performance
- provide technical input to bulk production via contributing to the pre-production process, evaluating the results of trials and contributing to identifying effective work procedures and continuous improvement of operations
- involvement in the development process for new or adapted products including: research for relevant information about trends and products; contributing to the creation of product briefs and prototype product specifications; selecting materials and components; making recommendations as to which machinery and equipment should be used to produce the new product; assessing the product against specification; amend until all requirements have been met; produce a final specification
- control textile testing procedures - plan and monitor testing procedures; evaluate and present results and validate data; select and monitor testing routines; ensure that results are valid before presenting results; report abnormal occurrences; ensure that

environmental, health and safety requirements are met; make recommendations to customers

- carry out sample analysis through sample production and evaluation of prototypes
- develop designs for textile products from initial conception to final sample; interpret the customer's requirements; work to a design brief; produce a visual interpretation of the design and adapt this to meet customer requirements until approval is given; agree cost effective methods of producing the first sample; produce accurate information, samples and specifications as required
- develop colour recipes and samples along with pre-bulk samples, testing the formulation against customer requirements and contributing to a production specification
- develop finishing processes via formulating trial routines, select appropriate finishing methods to produce the required effects and produce and assess finish samples
- work with processes involved in producing a finish sample prior to bulk production in order to determine the most appropriate processing methods to meet requirements; making adjustments to formulations and establishing quality requirements; testing procedures; seeking customer approval; contributing to the creation of the production specification
- plan, allocate and manage work for a team. This will include e monitoring and evaluation the performance of team members and improve the performance of a team, along with communicating the direction for their own area of responsibility and collect feedback to inform improvement and assess their own leadership performance.

Who could take this qualification? OR who is this qualification designed for?

All of ABC Awards sewing and textile suite of vocational qualifications have been designed for adults and young people who have an interest in the subject area and are looking to develop work-related skills. This qualification is accessible to those 16 and above.

Specifically the Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Manufacturing Textile Products is aimed at those learners who work or want to work within the Fashion and Textile industry producing textiles, as the qualification is primarily used as the competence element of the Skillset Advanced Fashion and Textiles Apprenticeship Framework. However, many employers seek to use the qualification to upskill existing employees, to address skills gaps they may have within their business.

Potential job roles that learners could be operating in to complete this qualification are:

- Textiles Team Leader / Supervisor
- Textile Dyeing Technician
- Textile Technologist
- Analytical Textile Technologist
- Knitting Technician
- Quality Supervisor (Spinning Mill)
- Textile Colour Technologist
- Textile Designer
- Textile Machinery Technician

There are no specific qualification requirements for entry onto the Level 3 (NVQ) Diploma in Manufacturing Textile Products. However, it would be advisable to have some prior knowledge of the textile industry. Qualifications that might provide useful include:

Further Education

- ABC Awards Level 2 Fashion and Textiles
- ABC Awards Level 2 Certificate in Apparel, Footwear, Leather or Textile Production (500/6576/2)

Work-based learning

- ABC Level 2 NVQ in Manufacturing Textile Products (501/0173/0)
- ABC Awards Level 2 Certificate in Apparel, Footwear, Leather or Textile Production (500/6576/2)
- Intermediate Apprenticeship in Fashion and Textiles (Textiles).

Alternatively voluntary or unpaid employment in a fashion and textiles role could provide a useful entry onto this qualification. However, to commence the qualification learners must be in work.

What could this qualification lead to?

Will the qualification lead to employment, and if so, in which job role at which level?

For those successfully achieving the ABC Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Manufacturing Textile Products, there are available career developments into higher level job roles such as:

- Fabric Technologist
- Fibre Technologist
- Textile Technical Designer
- Textile Quality Controller
- Senior Testing Technologist
- Technical Textile Researcher
- Knitwear Designer
- Technical Manager (Production)
- Research and Development Manager (Textiles and Apparel goods)
- New Product Development Manager

- Logistics Manager (Textile Finished Goods)
- Marketing Manager (Apparel and Textile Goods)
- Sales Manager (Apparel and Textiles Goods)
- Sales Manager (Apparel and Textiles Goods)

Will the qualification support progression to further learning, if so, what to?

Learners could also complete the ABC Level 3 Diploma in Textile Design and Manufacture which is the knowledge qualification linked to this competence qualification in the Level 3 Textiles Pathway of the Advanced Fashion and Textiles Apprenticeship Framework.

Learners engaging with vocational education/training by completing the **ABC Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Manufacturing Textile Products** (600/0257/8) qualification are able to progress in their chosen careers or follow further studies such as relevant Level 4 programmes of learning e.g. Foundation Degrees, Higher National Diplomas / Certificates, BA Honours Degrees and related professional courses. An example of progression could be:

- Bsc (Hons) Textile Technology or for a more vocational route
- ABC Fashion and Textiles : Technical Higher Level Apprenticeship (employers such as ASOS, Johnsons Apparel master, New Look, George at Asda, Matalan, Next, Courtalds, Sainsbury’s are engaged amongst other leading retailers and textile manufacturers.

Who supports this qualification?

(i) Employers

- Creative Skillset (Sector Skills Council)
- Bamboo Textiles Ltd
- Camira Fabrics
- Lantex
- Lees Newsome
- Linton Tweeds Ltd
- Rowlinson Knitwear Ltd
- SDC Enterprises Ltd
- Stork Brothers Ltd
- Westwood Yarns Ltd
- Wooltex UK Ltd
- WT Johnson and Sons
- UKFT
- Barry Sheerman MP
- Jason McCartney MP

(ii) Higher Education Institutions and providers

- Fashion & Textiles Group Training Association
- City of Liverpool College.