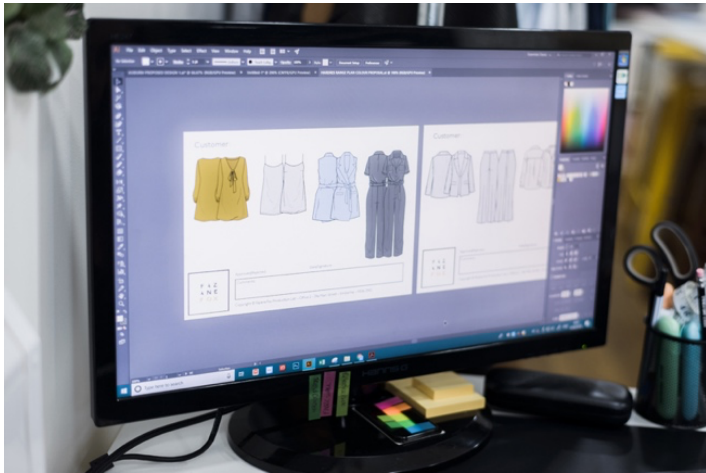


Lesson 1.2 Production Processes

Broadly the overall production of sewn products can be divided into five key departments which can then be divided into different production processes. See what is involved of each area below, including the responsibilities in each department where the role of a production sewing machinist sits within the process:

Product Development



Products are designed and developed in this department. People who may work in this area are Designers, Product Developers, Garment Technologists, Pattern Cutters and Sample Machinists. The department is responsible for creating the design, pattern, and sample. This can include:

- Designing a commercially viable product that can be made within the cost range.
Creating and testing a sample product.
- Creating an industrial pattern to use in production.
Grading the pattern to the required sizes.
- Laying and marking the pattern (manually or with a CAM system)

Cutting Room



Products are cut and bundled in this department. People who may work in this area are Cutting Room Supervisors, Material Cutters, Sorters and Cutting Room Operatives.

The department is responsible for spreading and cutting the cloth and organising cut bundles. This can include either digital or manual operations to:

- Create a lay of several plies of cloth whilst simultaneously inspecting fabric.
- Mark the pattern on the top of the lay
- Ensuring pattern pieces are laid in the right direction and waste is minimal.
- Cutting the lay, using industrial cutting equipment or laser cutting
- Sorting, organising, bundling, and distributing cut pieces according to style, colour, size etc.

Sewing Department



Products are assembled in this department. People who work in this area can be. Sewing Room Supervisors, Quality Controllers, Production Sewing Machinists, automated machine operatives and finishers. They are responsible for assembling the components to form the product.

This may include:

- Preparing the components for sewing i.e. pressing, interfacing
- Label attach
- Performing sewing operations efficiently according to the work system
- Working to acceptance quality levels
- Finishing the product i.e., button sew, hand finishing and adornments.

Quality Control



Products are checked to ensure they meet quality standards in this area, they may also be pressed. People who work in this area could be Quality Control Supervisors, quality inspectors, finishers, and pressers. They are responsible for the quality of each product before distribution. This may include:

- Final press
- Quality inspection, checking against specifications and identifying defect
- Returning defective product for repair
- ensuring internal labels, matching specification i.e. style number, size, washing instructions

Packing Area



Products are labelled, packaged, and prepared for distribution in this area. People who work in this. department may be warehouse supervisors, warehouse personnel, packers, and checkers. Their responsibilities may include:

- Final quality checks
- Matching the products to the correct order

details Attaching external labels,
Packing individual items

- Bulk packaging
- Labelling packages with customer information, logistics and distribution details.

All sections work together to produce the finished product to the quality and quantity standards required. As a Production Sewing Machinist, you will work within the sewing section but may interact with the other sections depending on your company sizes and processes.

Knowledge Challenge 1.4

There are usually five key departments in a sewing company, the cutting room, product development, the sewing department, quality control and the packing area. Each department is responsible for different production process.

1. Match two processes that may be carried out in the cutting room.
 - Pattern making
 - Packing individual items
 - Cutting the product components
 - Sample development
 - Labelling packages for distribution
 - Attaching cloth labels i.e., wash and size labels
 - Sewing the product components
 - Final Press of the finished product
 - Bundling the product components
 - Quality Checks

2. Match two processes that may be carried out in the Product Development department
 - Design
 - Packing individual items
 - Cutting the product components
 - Sample development
 - Labelling packages for distribution
 - Attaching cloth labels i.e., wash and size labels
 - Sewing the product components
 - Final Press of the finished product
 - Bundling the product components
 - Quality Checks

3. Match two processes that may be carried out in the sewing department
 - Pattern making
 - Packing individual items
 - Cutting the product components
 - Sample development
 - Labelling packages for distribution

- Attaching cloth labels i.e., wash and size labels
- Sewing the product components
- Final Press of the finished product
- Bundling the product components
- Quality Checks

4. Match two processes that maybe carried out in the quality control department.

- Pattern making
- Packing individual items
- Cutting the product components
- Sample development
- Labelling packages for distribution
- Attaching cloth labels i.e., wash and size labels
- Sewing the product components
- Final Press of the finished product
- Bundling the product components
- Quality Checks

5. Match two processes that maybe carried out in the Packing department.

- Pattern making
- Packing individual items
- Cutting the product components
- Sample development
- Labelling packages for distribution
- Attaching cloth labels i.e., wash and size labels
- Sewing the product components
- Final Press of the finished product
- Bundling the product components
- Quality Checks



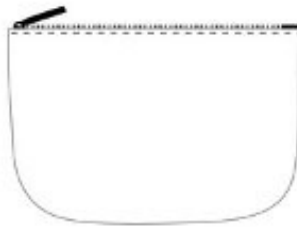
GROUNDWORK: Completing this groundwork is an option, it will help you to better understand your role, your company, and internal processes and procedures. For those undertaking an apprenticeship these activities will help you gather information relevant to the End Point

Assessment.

Create a critical path for a sewn product

A critical path is the sequence of tasks that must be completed to successfully make a product from start to finish. To complete this groundwork, create a simple critical path for a product made by your company, showing each department and process the product goes through from the design to distributions. If you are an independent learner, watch the industry insights in the next section of this unit and choose a featured product.

For example, a critical path to produce this small bag may look like this:



1. Product Development Department:

Design Bag
Create pattern
Source fabric and zipper
Cut bag
Make sample, check sample and amend, if necessary, Create product specifications

2. Cutting Room

Receive cloth, zippers, pattern and order details Lay cloth
Mark out pattern
Cut out bags

Bundle bag components (bag parts, zippers, wash labels) Label bundles (order number, order amount, product specifications)
Distribute bundles to the Sewing Room

3. Sewing Room

Receive cut bundles

Check labels (order number, order amount, product specifications)

Check all components are there to complete the job

Sew /assemble product together following the right sequence Quality check own work

Bundle together finished bags

Forward finished bundle to the next process

4. Quality Control & Packing

Receive finished bags

Check the quality of the bags against specifications

Check the bags against order details

Attach brand and price labels

Pack each bag individually

Pack the product into boxes

Check the order details, add order paperwork to boxes Close and secure boxes, creates and attach address labels Forward the packed products for distribution

If you are an independent learner, watch the industry insights in the next section of this unit, choose a featured product and create a critical path related to the chosen products.