

## Textile Operative

### What is it?

A Textile Operative works in the manufacturing and production of fabrics and textile products. This can include making clothing, carpets, upholstery, and technical textiles used in industries such as healthcare and construction. Textile Operatives help turn raw materials like fibres and yarn into finished products.

### Qualifications/Experience Required:

GCSEs in English and

A willingness to learn and follow instructions.

Many workers train on the job, though **Level 2 or Level 3 apprenticeships** in textiles manufacturing or manufacturing operations are available.

Experience in factory or production work can be an advantage.

### Type of person who may be suited to this job:

- Practical and hands-on.
- Able to concentrate and work carefully.
- Comfortable working as part of a team.
- Reliable and happy to follow routines.
- Interested in manufacturing or making products.

### What the Work Involves:

- Operating machinery that weaves, knits or finishes fabric.
- Checking fabric quality and reporting faults.
- Cutting, stitching or assembling textile products.
- Following health and safety procedures.
- Meeting production targets and deadlines.
- Keeping work areas clean and organised.

### Money/Wage Guide:

- **Starting Salary: £18,000-£21,000**
- **Experienced Salary: £24,000-£30,000+**

### Future Prospects – Labour Market Information:

Textile operatives are employed across the UK, particularly in specialist manufacturing, technical textiles and sustainable fashion production. Skills in textiles can also transfer into fashion, design, and manufacturing industries.

### Typical weekly hours – 37 to 40 hours per week.

Many factories operate **shift systems**, which may include early mornings, evenings or weekends.

### Related Opportunities:

- **Textile Technician**
- **Garment Maker**
- **Machine Operator**
- **Production Supervisor**

### Further Information:

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/textile-manufacturing-operative>

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/job-sectors/manufacturing/job-profile/textile-manufacturing-operative>