

Qualification Guide

OCNLR Entry Level Qualifications in Industrial Textiles Skills

OCN London Qualification Guide

OCNLR Entry Level Award in Industrial Textiles Skills (Entry 3)
Qualification No: 610/6124/4

OCNLR Entry Level Certificate in Industrial Textiles Skills (Entry 3)
Qualification No: 610/6128/1

OCN London aims to support learning and widening opportunities by recognising achievement through credit-based courses and qualifications, promoting high standards of excellence and inclusiveness. We are proud of our long-term role and unique history in providing innovative learning solutions for a wide range of learners and particularly those who have not previously benefitted from education.

At the heart of what OCN London offers is:

- a commitment to inclusive credit-based learning;
- the creative use of credit with responsive, demand-led qualification development;
- high quality service and support;
- respect for and encouragement of diversity – in learners and learning approaches, partners and settings;
- the development of people, capacity and resources that will ensure effective business partnerships.

To navigate within this Qualification Guide

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General Information

This qualification guide contains details of everything you need to know about the **OCNLR Entry Level Qualifications in Industrial Textiles Skills**. It makes reference to the curriculum areas covered and identifies the learners for whom the qualification has been developed. The guide also covers important aspects of assessment and moderation that are particular to the qualification. The guide should be used by all involved in the delivery and assessment of the qualification. The Account Manager for your Centre will provide support and advice on how to seek approval to offer the qualification.

If you are not yet an OCN London Approved Centre but wish to use these qualifications, then please contact us on enquiries@ocnlondon.org.uk for details of the Centre Approval application process.

Qualification Overview

The **OCNLR Entry Level Qualifications in Industrial Textiles Skills** have been developed to provide learners with a foundation in practical textile production skills, enabling them to engage safely and effectively in industrial work environments. These qualifications are designed to support progression into further learning or employment by building confidence, discipline, and essential knowledge relevant to textile manufacturing processes.

The **OCNLR Entry Level Qualifications in Industrial Textiles Skills** are regulated by Ofqual, the qualifications regulator for England, and are registered on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF). It is not a licence to practise.

Qualification details

This Qualification is also available at Levels 1 and 2.

Entry 3 Award

- Qualification Number: 610/6124/4
- Qualification credit value: 6
- Operational start date: 01/08/2025
- Review date: 31/07/2027
- Total Qualification Time (TQT): 60
- Guided Learning Hours (GLH): 60
- Assessment requirements: internally assessed, internally and externally moderated.

Entry 3 Certificate

- Qualification Number: 610/6128/1
- Qualification credit value: 15
- Operational start date: 01/08/2025
- Review date: 31/07/2027
- Total Qualification Time (TQT): 150
- Guided Learning Hours (GLH): 150
- Assessment requirements: internally assessed, internally and externally moderated

Purpose of the qualifications

The purpose of the **OCNLR Entry Level Qualifications in Industrial Textiles Skills** is to introduce learners to basic industrial textiles skills, focusing on safe working practices, familiarity with materials, and developing confidence in a production environment.

Who the qualifications are for

The **OCNLR Entry Level Qualifications in Industrial Textiles Skills** are suitable for individuals who are new to learning or have limited formal educational experience. They are particularly appropriate for learners who need to develop confidence, basic practical skills, and an understanding of working safely in a textile production environment. The qualifications are ideal for those engaging in vocational training for the first time, including learners in secure settings or those preparing to re-enter education or employment.

Entry guidance

There is no formal minimum age restriction for the OCNLR Industrial Textiles Skills qualifications at Entry Level 3. However, the qualifications are designed primarily for:

- Post-16 learners in adult or vocational learning environments
- Adults in secure settings such as prisons
- Individuals aged 16 and over who are undertaking reskilling, rehabilitation, or preparing for employment

Due to the practical nature of the qualifications—including the use of industrial equipment and workshop environments—centres must ensure learners are suitably mature and capable of engaging safely with the content and assessment methods.

Progression and related qualifications

Learners who achieve the **OCNLR Entry Level 3 Qualifications in Industrial Textiles Skills** may progress to:

- **OCNLR Level 1 Qualifications in Industrial Textiles Skills**
- Other Entry Level or Level 1 vocational qualifications in related areas, such as Retail, Warehousing, or Health and Safety
- Supported employment, volunteering, or further engagement in structured workshop programmes

This qualification provides an accessible foundation for individuals with limited prior experience and supports personal development and increased confidence in a vocational setting.

Guidance on delivering the qualifications

The **OCNLR Entry Level 3 Qualifications in Industrial Textiles Skills** should be delivered by practitioners who can create a supportive, confidence-building environment for learners who may be new to formal learning or workshop-based skills.

Tutors and Trainers should:

- Hold or be working towards a recognised teaching qualification (e.g. Level 3 Award in Education and Training), and/or
- Have relevant experience in textiles, sewing, or production-related activities
- Be capable of delivering learning in an inclusive, differentiated way to meet varied learner needs

- Understand the needs of learners with barriers to education, including those in secure settings

Assessors should:

- Have occupational competence in basic textile production or related fields
- Be familiar with informal, observational, and practical assessment methods
- Hold or be working towards an assessor qualification, or undertake OCN London assessor training

Please contact OCN London for decisions on particular qualifications if in doubt.

Resources and Equipment Requirements

Centres must have access to appropriate facilities, tools, and materials to support the safe and effective delivery and assessment of the Industrial Textiles Skills qualifications. These should reflect the standards and practices of a real or simulated textile production environment.

Workshop/Delivery Space

- A well-ventilated, clean, and organised workshop space
- Adequate workstations or sewing stations for learners
- Clear health and safety signage and access to first aid

Essential Equipment

- Domestic or industrial sewing machines, appropriate to the level of delivery (e.g. basic models at Entry Level, industrial flatbed or overlock machines at Level 2)
- Irons and ironing boards (for pressing seams and finishing products)
- Tables for cutting and assembling textiles
- Storage for tools, materials, and learners' work

Tools and Accessories

- Fabric scissors and snips
- Seam rippers
- Measuring tapes and rulers
- Fabric markers
- Needles, bobbins, and thread cones

Materials

- A selection of fabrics (e.g. calico, cotton, polycotton, canvas)
- Threads suitable for machine use
- Fastenings such as zips, buttons, Velcro (as needed per unit)
- Pattern pieces or templates (if applicable)

Health and Safety Resources

- Personal protective equipment (PPE) such as aprons and closed footwear
- Risk assessments for machinery use
- Instructional posters or manuals for machinery
- Safety switches or emergency stop mechanisms on machines

Teaching and Assessment Materials

- Tutor-developed task sheets and instructional guides
- Examples of completed textile products
- Observation checklists and feedback templates
- Cameras or digital devices for recording learner evidence (where feasible)

Additional Guidance

- Centres must ensure all equipment is suitable for the level of the qualification and that learners are adequately supervised during practical activities.
- Routine maintenance and safety checks must be carried out on all machines and equipment.
- Where possible, centres are encouraged to create a realistic production workflow to replicate industry conditions (e.g. roles for cutting, stitching, quality checking).

Structure of the qualifications

Rules of combination for achievement

The OCNLR Entry Level Award in Industrial Textiles Skills (Entry 3) qualification comprises optional units only. Learners must achieve 6 credits in total.

The OCNLR Entry Level Certificate in Industrial Textiles Skills (Entry 3) qualification comprises optional units only. Learners must achieve 15 credits in total.

Qualification units

Ofqual Unit Reference Number	OCNLR Unit Code	Unit Title	Level	Credit Value	GLH
L/651/7167	JK1/E3/LQ/003	Basic Fabric Cutting Techniques	E3	2	20
M/651/7168	JK1/E3/LQ/004	Basic Hand Sewing for Industrial Use	E3	2	20
R/651/7169	JK1/E3/LQ/005	Following Instructions and Work Orders	E3	3	30
A/651/7170	JK1/E3/LQ/006	Introduction to Sewing Machine Maintenance	E3	2	20
D/651/7171	JK1/E3/LQ/007	Introduction to Working in a Textiles Environment	E3	2	20
F/651/7172	JK1/E3/LQ/008	Operating a Sewing Machine - Getting Started	E3	3	30
H/651/7173	JK1/E3/LQ/009	Practising a Stitching Technique	E3	2	20
J/651/7174	JK1/E3/LQ/010	Preparing Materials and Work Areas	E3	3	30
K/651/7175	JK1/E3/LQ/011	Recognising Common Fabrics and Materials	E3	2	20
L/651/7176	JK1/E3/LQ/012	Working as Part of a Team	E3	2	20
M/651/7177	JK1/E3/LQ/013	Working Safely in a Workshop	E3	2	20

Assessment and Moderation

Assessment process

The assessment process for these qualifications are as follows:

- The learners are assessed through activities that are internally set by tutor assessors;
- The activities must be designed to enable learners to meet the assessment criteria of the unit;
- Learners' portfolios of assessed evidence must be internally moderated at the Centre;
- The portfolios of assessed evidence will be externally moderated by an OCN London External Moderator.

There is no additional external assessment for these qualifications.

Devising assessments

Each unit has a supplementary page with information on the types of assessment activities that can (indicated as 'Optional' or 'O') and/or must (indicated as 'Prescribed' or 'P') be used to assess learners against the unit. Tutor assessors must always refer to this page before devising assessment tasks.

Centre devised assessments should be scrutinised by the Internal Moderator before use to ensure that they are fit for purpose. Centre devised assessments will be scrutinised by the External Moderator to ensure reliability and validity of assessment.

Marking assessment activities

Each activity must be marked against the identified assessment criteria in the unit and judged to be either achieved or not achieved.

Assessors need to ensure that the work in a learner's portfolio is:

- Authentic – it is the result of the learner's own performance or activity;
- Sufficient – enabling the assessor to make a consistent and reliable judgement;
- Adequate – appropriate to the level.

Where a series of activities are set, learners must demonstrate the achievement of the required standard identified in the assessment criteria in all activities. All of the assessment criteria in a unit must be met before the unit is deemed achieved.

The unit achievement is not graded. Units are either achieved or not achieved.

Standardisation

Standardisation is a process that promotes consistency in the understanding and application of standards in relation to assessment. It:

- compares assessment judgements from different tutor/assessors;
- promotes consistent judgements by different tutor/assessors;
- identifies good practice in assessment;
- promotes the sharing of good practice in assessment between centre staff.

Standardisation events should be held periodically within centres to ensure consistent and effective assessment practice. Standardisation events may also be held by OCN London and it is a requirement that each Centre offering units from these qualifications must contribute assessment materials and learners' evidence for standardisation, if requested.

OCN London will notify Centres of the required sample for standardisation purposes and assessment materials, learners' evidence and tutor feedback may be collected by External Moderators.

Learners with particular requirements

If learners have particular requirements the Centre should refer to the 'Access to Fair Assessment Policy and Procedure' which can be found on our website at: [Access to Fair Assessment Policy and Procedure](#) and gives clear guidance on the reasonable adjustments and arrangements that can be made to take account of disability or learning difficulty, without compromising the achievement of the assessment criteria.

Requirements for tutor/assessors

Assessors of these qualifications are expected to have occupational competence in basic textile production or related fields; be familiar with informal, observational, and practical assessment methods; hold or be working towards an assessor qualification, or undertake OCN London assessor training.

(Contact OCN London for decisions on particular qualifications if in doubt.)

To be sufficiently competent

In addition to being qualified to make assessment decisions, each assessor must be capable of carrying out the full requirements within the competency of the units they are assessing. This competence should be maintained annually through clearly demonstrable continuing learning and professional development.

Expert witnesses can be used where they have suitable expertise for specialist areas. The use of expert witnesses should be determined and agreed by the assessor.

To be sufficiently knowledgeable

Each assessor should possess relevant knowledge and understanding of the subject and so be able to make robust and reliable assessment decisions in relation to the subject.




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