**Title:** ASSIST IN MAKING COSTUMES

**Unit Code:** CUECOS3A

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to assist with costume production including garment assembly, alterations and care.

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| This unit of competency may be assessed on or off the job provided that the appropriate tools and equipment are used. A range of assessment methods may be utilised. | Evidence to demonstrate consistent achievement of this unit’s outcomes includes:  
- assessing garments for maintenance or repair  
- repairing and restoring garments to optimum condition  
- ensuring quality of the finished garment | This unit may be assessed concurrently with the following units:  
- Apply industry and organisation knowledge  
- Follow health, safety and security procedures  
- Work with others  
- Dress performers* | This unit of competency should be assessed using:  
- fabric  
- relevant tools and equipment as specified in the range of variables | Key Terms and Concepts:  
- period costume  
- accessories  
- patterns  
- costume design  
- sizing  
- dressmaker’s dummy  
- millinery  
- corsetry  
- jewellery  
- masks  
- hosiery  
- drapery  
- properties (props)  
- overlocker  
- fabric  
- sewing equipment  
- sewing terms  
- supervisors instructions  
- specifications  
- workplace procedures |

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*This unit is not available in the Entertainment Industry Curriculum Framework*
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| 1. Obtain materials for costumes | • Materials or samples are obtained in accordance with supervisor’s instructions  
• Materials are collected and delivered as required  

The following variables may apply:  
Tools and equipment used in assisting making costumes may include:  
• industrial/domestic irons and steamers  
• glue guns  
• tools e.g. wire cutters, bolt cutters, hammers, pliers  
• scissors  
• dressmakers dummies  
• washing machines and dryers  

**UNDERPINNING KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS**  
Skills and knowledge are required in:  
• the use, properties and care of different fabrics and materials regularly used in making costumes and how they react to laundering, dry cleaning or spot cleaning  
• appropriate testing procedures  
• broad knowledge of cleaning agents and the effect they have on a range of fabrics/materials, including those that are fragile and easily damaged  
• garment repair techniques and their applications  
• carrying out garment maintenance and repair techniques to the required enterprise standard  
• maintaining records and documenting and transferring information  
• who to report to and about what  
• who, and when, to ask for help  
• basic sewing  
• working as part of a team  

**Learning experiences for the HSC must address:**  
- Terminology associated with making costumes  
- An understanding of the elements and materials required to make costumes under supervisor’s instructions  
- An understanding of the appropriate tools and materials for use with various types of fabrics
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| 2. Carry out simple garment assembly | • Base and self fabrics are laid up, marked and cut under direction of supervisor  
• Equipment and work station are set up and adjusted in accordance with the organisation’s procedures and using the correct thread, needle size and length, needle guard, tension setting and attachments.  
• Simple garments are sewn together under direction from supervisor and in accordance with requirements for quality, personal safety, and speed of work  
• Sewn pieces are inspected, any faults are identified and action is taken to rectify them in accordance with the organisation’s procedures | Minor alterations may include:  
• hemming  
• buttons  
• replacing zips  
• mending small tears  
• taking in and letting out  
• invisible mending  
Costumes may include:  
• female, male, children’s and animal costumes  
• undergarments  
• corsetry  
• padding  
• dance wear  
• novelty costumes  
• head-dresses  
• masks  
• accessories e.g. costume jewellery, leather work, belts, bags | | Learning experiences for the HSC must address:  
- An understanding of the procedures undertaken before the commencement of costume making, including talking measurements and preparing patterns  
- Ability to demonstrate an understanding of supervisor’s instructions on how to prepare, sew and alter simple garments  
- An understanding of health, safety and security procedures relevant to costume making |
| 3. Undertake basic alterations | • Garments are assessed or examined to determine requirements for maintenance or repair  
• Garments, materials and equipment are prepared in the appropriate manner for maintenance or repair  
• Minor repairs and alterations are carried out to restore garments to optimum condition in accordance with supervisor’s instructions  
• Any faults, spots and marks are identified and rectified | Oral communication tasks may include:  
• understanding and use of industry terminology  
• following and checking instructions from supervisor on constructing garments  
• receiving feedback from supervisor  
Material to be read and interpreted may include:  
• telephone books and catalogues to | | Learning experiences for the HSC must address:  
- An understanding of the importance of making accurate alterations and or repairing/maintaining garments in accordance with supervisor’s instructions. |
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<td>source necessary materials</td>
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<td>• internet to source materials for costumes</td>
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<td>• construction instructions for simple garments</td>
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<td>• product labels, fabric care instructions and manufacturers’ guidelines</td>
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<td>• written instructions on repairs, alterations or adjustments to costumes</td>
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<td>4. Care for garments</td>
<td>Garments are pressed in accordance with fabric specifications and workplace procedures</td>
<td>Written tasks may include:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Garments are washed in accordance with fabric specifications and workplace procedures</td>
<td>• costume labels detailing production, character, act, scene, performer.</td>
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<td>Necessary arrangements are made for the dry cleaning of garments</td>
<td>• recording dry cleaning expenses</td>
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<td>Garments are accurately labelled, coded and stored as appropriate</td>
<td>• Numeracy tasks may include:</td>
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<td>• calculating meterage required for base and self fabrics for simple garments</td>
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<td>- An understanding of the correct procedures to care for garments including: pressing, washing, dry cleaning and storage.</td>
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**KEY COMPETENCIES**

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| Communicating ideas and information | 1 |
| Working with others and in teams | 1 |
| Solving problems | 1 |
| Using mathematical ideas and techniques | 1 |
| Using technology | 1 |