

***Men's Bespoke Trouser Making syllabus***  
***www.handcrafttailoracademy.com***

**Men's Bespoke Trouser Making**

*Best suited for levels 2 & 3*

*Novice – competent*

Bespoke trouser making is the garment for a skilled machiner. Often the focus of tailoring is honed in on hand sewing skills, overlooking the skilled artisan that can operate an industrial sewing machine. There is a technique to using such a machine which must be learnt and mastered.

Since the *threadle* machine was made obsolete, trouser making has evolved to almost an entirely machine made garment. All the main details such as pockets, straight seams and fly are sewn by machine. The making process utilises the industrial sewing machine for many of the details so it's a great opportunity to improve one's skills.

At The HTA, students can opt to start the course online and complete it in-house or vice-versa. We also host introductory courses for beginners who wish to master the art of Savile Row tailoring.

**Week 1**

*Lesson 1:*

Introduction to tools, head units and measurement chart; taking measurements and assessing figures

Students will take turns measuring one another to become competent in assessing figures

*Lesson 2:*

Pattern drafting

The student will draft a trouser pattern based off their own measurements

*Lesson 3:*

Threading the industrial sewing machine, sewing straight seams, working with a needle and thimble, basting straight and diagonally and cross stitching

A detailed explanation of the use of an industrial sewing machine is given

*Lesson 4:*

Buttonhole stitch and sewing darts

The buttonhole is taught early in the course so that the student is able to continue practising the skills needed for the completion of the garment

*Lesson 5:*

Buttonhole stitch cont. and sewing parallel lines

The sewing of parallel lines will help develop machine sewing skills needed for pocket making

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**Week 2**

*Lesson 6:*

Fly sample

The student will sew samples of the zip fly before attempting one in the unfinished garment

*Lesson 7:*

Slant hip pocket sample

All styles of trouser pockets are made in samples and two will be chosen for the finished garment

*Lesson 8:*

Straight hip pocket sample

This style of pocket is usually associated with dress trousers

*Lesson 9:*

Double jetted back pocket

This style of pocket is similar to the cross pocket found on the coat

*Lesson 10:*

Welted back pocket

This is the second style of back pocket and is increasingly more difficult

**Week 3**

*Lesson 11:*

Cut, lay and inlays

The project begins by cutting in cloth

*Lesson 12:*

Trimming and mark stitches

The mark stitch, also known as *the tailor's stitch* or *thread mark*, is used to transfer the pattern from one side of the cloth to both layers

*Lesson 13:*

Overlocking

Using an industrial overlocker, a machine stitch is placed on the edge to prevent the cloth from fraying

*Lesson 14:*

Hip pockets

Choosing a style from your samples, the hip pockets are then sewn into the trousers

*Lesson 15:*

Hip pockets cont.

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The same pocket is sewn on on the opposite side

**Week 4**

*Lesson 16:*

Back pockets

Choosing a back pocket from your samples, they are sewn into the trousers

*Lesson 17:*

Zip, fly and waistband

The zip, fly and waistband is added to the trousers

*Lesson 18:*

Inside leg and shrinking

The side-seams and inside leg are sewn and the legs are shaped by *shrinking*

*Lesson 19:*

Shrink, press and seat seam

Both legs are pressed firmly and the seat seam is sewn

*Lesson 20:*

Hook, bars, straps and prep for lining

The fasteners are added to the trousers in preparation for fitting

**Week 5**

*Lesson 21:*

Basting for fitting

The trousers are basted around the hem and waistband for the fitting

*Lesson 22:*

Fitting – rip and remark

The trousers are fitted and then altered accordingly

*Lesson 23:*

Curtains

The lining curtains are added to hide the inlays

*Lesson 24:*

Waistband lining

The waistband lining is basted into place

*Lesson 25:*

Felling the lining

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The waistband lining is *fell* stitched

**Week 6**

*Lesson 26:*

Cross stitching the hem

The hem is overlocked and cross stitched

*Lesson 27:*

Pick stitching the fly and pockets

The finishing stitches are added to the fly and pockets

*Lesson 28:*

Finishing stitches

Bar-tacks are added to strengthen the pocket mouths

*Lesson 29:*

Buttons and buttonholes

Buttonholes are sewn in and the brace buttons are added

*Lesson 30:*

Press off

The trousers are pressed off and ready to be worn home!