

The Art & Science of Fitting Gentlemen's Garments

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Suited for levels 4 & 5
Advanced – semi-professional

The latest course to be added to The HTA in-house syllabus is a much needed topic: the fitting of bespoke garments.

It is much more than just a fitting course. The student begins with a fitting garment which fits the test figure, then it has been slightly altered to incur a fitting issues.

We begin with the basics such as an incorrect sleeve pitch. The student can touch, feel and see the issue in real life and learn how to identify and remedy it on both the garment and the pattern.

Once the issue has been identified the student will need to re-baste the garment ready for the next fitting issue. It is for this reason that the student must have completed one of the coat making courses.

A thorough understanding of pattern drafting is needed in order to fully understand the alterations made to the patterns and students will have full understanding of both hand sewing and (industrial) sewing machine techniques.

This course is a direct lead on from the coat making and pattern drafting course. The student must have completed both either online or in-house to qualify to take this course.
This course is not available online

Full-time six week course on set dates at €3450

To join a group course during the scheduled term, the cost is €575 per week.

[Click here for term dates.](#)

To schedule an in-house one to one training

Courses materials €50

Course Goals

This course is a finishing course. It's a course that brings together all the knowledge accumulated from all our other online and in-houses courses. It will test the skill and the competence of the student in many disciplines such as pattern drafting, coat making, hand and machine sewing.

This is the final course one can take as part of The HTA in-house training programme. It brings together all the skills mastered from previous courses. The student will come to a fuller understanding of pattern making and garment fitting, arming them with the knowledge they need to venture into the bespoke tailoring trade. Graduates who have completed the trouser, waistcoat, coat and pattern drafting courses will be awarded with a certificate of Master Tailor upon completion of this course.

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Course Materials

[Dugdale Brothers](#) offer all the trimmings required for every course.

Chalk and pattern paper

Other tools such as thimbles, shears, needles, clappers, chest and sleeve boards are provided for student use for the duration of the course.

The student will have access to an industrial sewing machine, a height adjustable board and an industrial steam iron. Pressing equipment such as a tailor's ham, chest board and sleeve board will also be available for use.

Week 1

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

2. Sleeve pitch

The sleeve will be pitched both forward and back

3. Reducing the chest

Two methods of reducing the chest will be discussed

Both locally and by crookening

4. Letting out the waist

The waist can be altered on both the front edge and the side seam

5. Taking in the waist

The waist can be reduced on both the front edge and the side seam

Week 2

6. Lengthening the back balance

The back balance can be altered at both the side seam and across the shoulders

7. Shortening the back balance

The back balance can be altered at both the side seams and across the shoulders

8. Lengthening the front balance

The foreparts are dropped to lengthen the front balance

9. Shortening the front balance

The foreparts are raised to shorten the front balance

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10. Adjusting for a low front shoulder
The fitting will show an example of the low front shoulder

Week 3

11. Adjusting for a low back shoulder
The fitting will show an example of the low back shoulder

12. Squaring the front shoulders
The front shoulder slope will be greater than the shoulder angle

13. Squaring the back shoulder
The back shoulder angle will be greater than the shoulder slope

14. Letting out the half neck
The half back neck is too narrow

15. Taking in the back neck
The half back neck is too wide

Week 4

16. Letting out the centre back neck
The centre back neck is over suppressed

17. Lowering the armhole
The armholes have been cut too high

18. Reducing the sleeve cap
The sleeve cap is too long

19. Sleeves are too narrow
There is a creasing across the sleeve-head

20. Letting out the fork
The trouser fork is too short

Week 5

21. Taking in the fork
The trouser fork is too long

22. Letting out the waist
The trouser waist is too small

23. Taking in the waist
The trouser waist is too big

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24. Reducing the seat angle
Excess seat angle

25. Increasing the seat angle
Insufficient seat angle

Week 6

26. Shortening the back rise
The underside trouser rise is too long

27. Lengthening the back rise
The underside rise is too short

28. Shortening the front rise
The topside rise is too long

29. Lengthening the front rise
The topside rise is too short

30. Shortening/ Lengthening the hem
The length of the hem needs to be adjusted