



## Bespoke Saddler Level 3

Bespoke Saddlers have practical skills in the manufacture of equestrian products.. The skills involved in Bespoke Saddlery cover a wide area of expertise that includes craft, technical, creative and design. These skills are fundamental to the Bespoke Saddlery industry and ultimately have to be employed with great precision, to high standards of excellence and within realistic time constraints.



## What they will learn

### Knowledge

- How to safely interpret instructions based on customer's requirements.
- Effective use of equipment and safe working methods.
- How to decide if a repair is viable in terms of safety and cost.
- Leather characteristics and behaviour.
- The principles of manufacture for a range of bridle components.
- The principles of manufacture for a range of saddle making processes.
- The characteristics of a variety of different leathers and fittings and their suitable application.
- The impact of their product and work on the welfare of the horse.



Many of the skills are carried out by hand in order to produce an item that fits precisely to a customer's requirements. Hand crafted products form the heart of the British Saddlery industry and have an international and iconic reputation.

Upon completion of this advanced apprenticeship the learner will be competent in both Saddle and Bridle making.



## What they will learn

### Skills

- Identify and minimise hazards and risks in the workplace.
- Carry out effective customer care.
- Organise purchasing of materials and stock control.
- Have overall responsibility for the finish and suitability of the completed bridle / saddle.
- Maintain the quality of workmanship in order to achieve company standards.
- Recognise faults in leather and fittings.
- Cut, edge, stain, prick, mark and skive all components.
- Double hand and single/back stitch.
- (When bridle making), block all keepers.
- (When saddle making), flock panels smoothly, evenly and to the correct specification.





An employee in this occupation will be capable of producing a standard or bespoke product that is cut and made to a unique pattern or measurement for a horse.

The Bespoke Saddler is a fundamental occupational role in the saddlery trade and is an integral part of this amazing industry.



## What they will learn

### Behaviours

The apprentice will:

- Adhere to appropriate Health & Safety procedures within the workplace.
- Commit to maintaining high standards of precision and excellence as appropriate to the craft.
- Focus on the requirements of the customer.
- Work effectively both individually and as part of a team.
- Possess a strong work ethic and commitment in order to meet the standards required.
- Recognise and appreciate equality and diversity in the workplace.

