

Savile Row Coat Making Syllabus (Men's and Ladies')
www.handcrafttailoracademy.com

Savile Row Coat Making

Savile Row coat making is by far the most satisfying art in handcraft tailoring. It requires the most skills and combinations of techniques to create a satisfactory outcome.

No one is born with a gift that makes coat making easy from the beginning. We all struggle and fail time and again before turning out a garment we are proud to put our name on, holding it up to the world as an example of a finely tailored handcraft coat.

Handmade should never be used as an excuse for shoddy workmanship but rather as a mark of hard work and quality in every stitch. Coat making brings together many disciplines such as basting with fullness, pocket making, hand padding, layered stitching, fell stitching and of course the mark of a truly handcrafted suit, the handmade buttonhole.

Direct parallels in construction techniques can be drawn between the Savile Row Coat and the Ladies Jacket. It is only the styling details that set the two apart.

Both require the most skills and combination of techniques to create a satisfactory outcome.

Handcraft is the hallmark of Savile Row tailoring. Anyone seeking to learn tailoring at the highest attainable level should focus on mastering the needle and thimble before venturing into coat making.

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Week 1	Lesson Description
Lesson 1	Introduction to tools, head units and measurement chart; taking measurements and assessing figures
Lesson 2	Pattern drafting and cutting Using your own measurements, the Rory will demonstrate how to cut the back and fore-part to fit the student or their subject Cutting the patterns for the sleeves, under-collar and facing
Lesson 3	Cut in cloth The demonstration will show how to lay the pattern on the cloth, add inlays and cut out the fabric
Lesson 4	Trimming the coat The demonstration will show how to cut the canvas, linings and pocket pieces
Lesson 5	Making the canvasses Using both hand and machine sewing techniques the demonstration will show how to make the canvasses which are the foundation on which the coat is laid
Week 2	
Lesson 6	Straight seams and cross-pockets All the machine sewn seams will be completed and pressed ready for the next stage
Lesson 7	Sewing the out-breast and canvas darts The other outside pocket found on the coat is the out-breast and the shape will be added to the canvasses with the chest darts, preparing for attaching to the foreparts
Lesson 8	Canvassing off the left and right forepart The canvas is attached to the right fore-part first then followed by the left
Lesson 9	Pocket baste to shoulders The foreparts are attached to the back with basting stitches
Lesson 10	Pocket baste shoulders, collar & sleeves The coat is made to a pocket baste, ready for fitting

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Week 3	Lesson Description
Lesson 11	Fitting the coat This lesson will show how to conduct a fitting, identify fitting issues and how to remedy them. Rip and remark
Lesson 12	Padding lapels Using either machine or hand-sewing techniques the demonstration will show how to pad and roll the lapels
Lesson 13	Shaping and taping The coat fore-parts are now ready to be shaped and taped with bias lining securing the edge to the canvas
Lesson 14	Facing and in-breast pockets Two inside pockets are added to the linings and facings positioned below the armholes
Lesson 15	Attaching the facings The lapels are covered with the facing cloth and lining
Week 4	
Lesson 16	Making a Forward fitting The back is basted to the foreparts, the shoulders, shoulder pads, collar and sleeves are basted for a forward fitting
Lesson 17	Forward fitting Lesson shows how to conduct a forward fitting, identify fitting issues and remedy them Rip and remark
Lesson 18	Lining the Back With the facings turned out, the back is then covered with lining
Lesson 19	Sewing the side-seam The two foreparts are joined to the back at the side-seam. The side-vents are sewn and lining attached
Lesson 20	Cross-stitching the hem and facings The facing and hems are stitched into place and the is shoulder seams are chalked and basted together

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Week 5	Lesson Description
Lesson 21	Shoulder seams and shoulder pads The shoulder seams are machine sewn and the shoulder pads are attached to the armhole
Lesson 22	Making the under-collar Using either machine or hand-sewing techniques the under-collar is made up using collar canvas and <i>melton</i>
Lesson 23	Attaching and shaping the under-collar The under-collar is shaped and then attached to the neck hole of the coat and hand-sewn into place
Lesson 24	Top collar and draw seams Cloth is laid over the under-collar and basted to the gorge
Lesson 25	Making the sleeves The cuff and sleeve seams are sewn and the lining added
Week 6	
Lesson 26	Basting the sleeves The sleeves are set in using a basting stitch, fullness is added then shrunk away in preparation for the permanent stitch
Lesson 27	Sewing the armhole The sleeves are sewing in by machine and the basting is removed. This is followed by the sleeve head wading and attaching the lining
Lesson 28	Hand finishing There are a number of different hand-stitches used to finish a handcraft coat including the buttonhole. Each is demonstrated using hand sewing silk, which can be substituted with waxed machine thread
Lesson 29	Final press The coat is now ready for pressing and buttoning. The coat is shaped with an iron and chest board
Lesson 30	Buttoning the coat The coat is finished and the buttons are added