

The Handicraft programme

Do you want to work creatively and use your hands?
Do you want to start your own company some day?
Do you want work during upper-secondary school?
Do you want to have an education which is both theoretical and practical?
Do you want to build upon old handicraft traditions?
If so, then the Handicraft Programme may be something for you.

On the Handicraft Programme you get to learn about service, responsibility, economics, marketing and communication. Everything you need to one day work with handicrafts. But if you choose the Handicraft Programme you may already have a special interest you want to develop and become really good at. On the programme you develop your handicrafts and sense of colour and design.

Working or studying further

If you choose the Handicraft Programme you may apply for a job directly after upper-secondary school. It depends on which course of study you have chosen, which classes you have studied, how the market looks for your handicraft and how skilled you are at what you do. You often first become an apprentice for a year or more. You receive an apprentice salary and get to go along with those working in the industry, in order to learn from them. They have special skills and have worked within your trade for a long time.

In order for you to have a chance to get just that handicraft job you are interested in, you may have to study after upper-secondary school. You can choose an education at a vocational university or university. There are many popular special schools and special educations which can be difficult to come in to.

Ask your school and careers officer which upper-secondary school courses you should choose in order to be able to apply to the education you are interested in.

Possible jobs

Examples of handicraft jobs are ship builder, hair stylist, florist, glass blower, goldsmith, fashion designer, furniture-maker, tailor and watch-maker.

Programme contents

The Handicraft Programme consists of courses. Certain courses are obligatory for everyone who studies at upper-secondary school. Other courses are specific for the Handicraft Programme. You get to choose some of the other courses yourself.

The Handicraft Programme does not have any national course of study. This means that every school has the possibility to put together their own courses of studies. Ask your careers officer where you can choose to study the handicraft which interests you.

Contact with work in the real world

On the Handicraft Programme you have contact with the professional world as early as upper-secondary school. You have at least 15 weeks of internship training (APU). At the place of work you learn how it is to work with the handicraft you have chosen, what you need be good at and other things that can be difficult to learn at school. APU is a good way of getting contacts you can use when you apply for a job. If you are interested in doing your APU in a country other than Sweden, this can be arranged.

Jobs and the future

It can be difficult to say it will be easy or difficult for you get a job once you have studied on the Handicraft Programme. It primarily depends on which handicraft you have chosen. You should be prepared to move or commute in order to get a job. Maybe start your own company after upper-secondary school. Maybe there is an association or organisation where those who work with your handicraft can join. Ask them how the labour market looks!