

Bespoke Design Process Guide

We're delighted you're considering us to create your design. A bespoke design is an investment, it's a garment that is designed and fitted to you, we want you to feel confident and comfortable in your new garments. Everything is made by us, on site in our Shepton Mallet studio.

Understanding the Value of Our Bespoke Clothing

It's crucial to keep in mind that when you choose our service, you are not buying a design from a high street shop. We custom design and tailor your garments to your specific preferences. In the following pages, we will guide you through the process involved in creating your unique piece of clothing.

Step One: Your First Consultation

Before we begin, we'd like to get to know you better. To kick things off, we'll schedule an initial consultation that typically lasts an hour. Please bring along any materials that you find inspiring, any accessories you already have, and any colour palettes that you would like to include in your design.

During the consultation, we'll discuss your ideas, learn more about the design's purpose, and determine when it's needed. If time allows, we may even be able to discuss fabric options.

Step Two: Design Sketches

At the outset of our collaboration, our designer will review the information you provided during the consultation and begin crafting sketches of your garments. Additionally, we'll commence the search for suitable materials to bring your vision to life.

Once the designs are complete, we'll send them over to you for review and approval. Your feedback is crucial to us, so please don't hesitate to share any changes or suggestions you may have at this stage.

Step Three: Estimates

After agreeing on the design and sourcing possible fabrics, we can provide you with a cost estimate for your project. The final price will depend on the selected fabrics and the amount of time it takes to complete the work.

Please note that if changes are made to the design after it has been started, additional fees may apply.

Step Four: Deposit & Measuring

Once you have approved the estimate and design, we will schedule another consultation. During this meeting, we'll ask for a deposit.

We will then discuss your preferred fabric selections and take the necessary body measurements to bring your design to life. This consultation may take up to an hour.

Step Five: Creating A Bespoke Pattern

Following your consultation, we'll give your measurements to our expert pattern cutter. Using your body measurements, she will develop a custom pattern for your design idea. The duration of this process is dependent on the intricacy of your design, and can range from a few hours to several days.

Step Six: The Toile

Once your pattern is finalized, we will move on to the next step and create a mock version of it, also known as a toile. This version of the garment will be made using a different fabric. The basic shape of the article of clothing will be cut and sewn together.

Step Seven: The Toile Fitting

You will be invited back for another consultation. We ask that you bring any specific under garments that you might be wearing under your design, e.g. bra, shape wear etc. You will be asked to try on the toile, we will then be able to assess the fit.

They will use pins to correct any fitting issues and take notes of any adjustments needed.

This can take up to an hour.

Step Eight: Pattern Corrections

Your toile will now be sent back to our pattern cutter. She will translate the pin fitting and notes and make any adjustments to the main pattern as needed.

Step Nine: Creating The Fabric Shell

The next step is to cut and sew up the shell of your garment. We do not finish the garment at this stage.

Step Ten: The Fabric Fitting

At this stage you'll start to see your garments coming to life. We'll invite you back for another fitting. The garment will be a shell, and we'll use this to do a few more tweaks before we move on to the lining, fastenings and detailing.

This fitting can last up to an hour.

Step Eleven: Making Up The Garment

After the fabric fitting we can make a few more tweaks to the shape and fit. We will then set to work putting everything together. At this stage we will add any linings and fastenings.

Step Twelve: 2nd Fabric Fitting

After we've put your garment together we'll invite you back for another fitting. This will check the fit of the garment in a more finished state. We'll be able to check the hem length at this time.

This fitting can last up to an hour.

Step Thirteen: Finishing and Detailing

After the 2nd fabric fitting, we will move on to finishing your garment. At this time the agreed hemline can be finished, and any external detailing** will be added e.g. lace appliques, beading etc.

Step Fourteen: Final Fitting and Collection

Once we've finished your garment, we'll invite you back for a final fitting. In most cases the garment will be ready for you to take away at this fitting. But in some cases we may need to make some minor extra adjustments depending on the complexity of your design.

At your final fitting we'll ask you to pay the balance on your account*.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to learn more about the process of creating a bespoke garment.

We look forward to seeing you at your Initial Consultation, you can book an appointment online at www.timelesstailoring.co.uk

*The estimate provided to you at the start of the process may not be the final price you will pay. We work on an hourly rate, and will record how long it takes to produce your garment. Some items will take longer than others, and design changes during the process will add extra. Please also be aware where hand finishing is required this will take longer than machine finishing. Couture finishes are available on request, please ask for details about couture finishing.

**A note on detailing: all beads, sequins and lace appliques are sewn on by hand.