

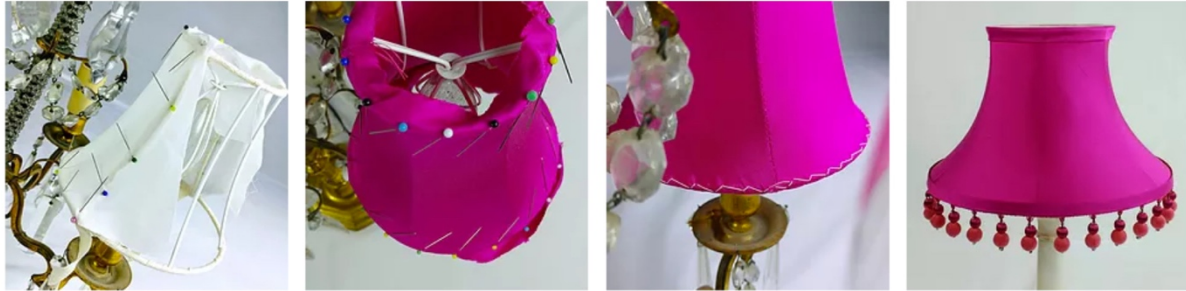


# TAILORED LAMPSHADES

9am to 5pm

£275 one person | £415 two people

Bookable on a day to suit you



## Learn this creative skill in one day of bespoke tuition

Tailored designs are the core of the lampshade maker's craft. They can be made to fit any size or shape of frame and inspire infinite creative options. A beautiful bespoke tailored lampshade is one of the most rewarding features you can add to your home – but of course they require a bit of skill to make.

This wonderfully rewarding day of one-to-one tuition is held in the beautifully equipped sewing room at Traditional Upholstery School in Wiltshire. Your tutor will be Naomi, Mel or Joanna, all professional lampshade makers who teach regularly at the school.

The day will be fun, informal and full of learning. You will be taught the core techniques step-by-step – pattern cutting, hand stitching, pinning and stretching, fitting a balloon lining, trimming - all at your own pace. You'll take home your own impressive handmade tailored shade and the skills to make many more.

In order to make this class possible in one-day, you will be provided with a shade frame that is suitable for learning on. If you have a shade that you would really love to start making as soon as you get home, do bring it along to the class. Even if it's not quite right for your first attempt, your tutor will be able to offer tips and suggestions to get you started so that you go home full of confidence in your new skills.

### On the day

You will be working in a private sewing studio, fully equipped with a huge sewing table and plenty of good lighting. Your tutor will break the process down into achievable stages. You will learn how to bind a frame, then create a template for a fitted cover. You'll be shown how to cut, measure and sew your fabric, then how to pin, stretch and stitch it to the frame. We'll teach you how to fit the balloon lining and finish with a bias binding trimming.

There are a lot of new skills to learn on this busy, lively day – but it's great fun and you'll be fuelled by plenty of tea, coffee and a full biscuit tin.



### What is provided

- A 10 or 12in empire or scalloped empire lampshade frame, which is the optimum size and shape for learning on
- Binding tape and suitable cotton linings in shades of white
- Pins, scissors and all the specialist sundries
- Sewing machines
- Tea, coffee, cold drinks and snacks are provided throughout the day

### What to bring

Choosing your own fabric is one of the most enjoyable parts of the process, so we invite our students to bring their own top fabric.

Suitable fabric for a tailored lampshade is a lightweight cotton or linen. Patchworking cotton is ideal. Silk is lovely - but brings its own technical challenges and is best saved until you have some experience. Avoid heavy fabrics, pile fabrics, stretchy, textured and embroidered fabric. If in doubt, bring a choice. 1m of top fabric will suffice. We provide plain white and ivory lining fabric.

### Trimmings

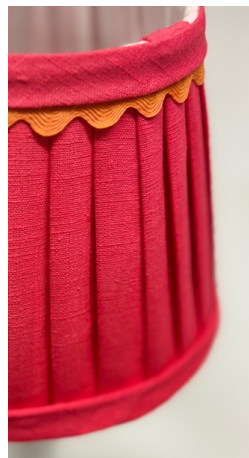
Trimmings can make a tailored lampshade. On the course we will show you how to make a bias trim using your top fabric. This is suitable for a shade with plain rings and is an incredibly useful trimming to know.

If you decide to work on a scallop edge frame it will need trimming with a gimp braid. Gimp braid is designed to hug curves while flat, making it ideal for the job. It's well worth spending time choosing something special. Collybrook House, Barnett Lawson Trimmings, VV Rouleaux and MacCulloch & Wallis all have useful and inspiring ranges.

So in brief, a scalloped edge should be trimmed with a scroll gimp, which hugs the curves well. If you choose a shade with straight top and bottom rings, your options are broader and bias trim or ribbon will both work well.



LEFT: scallops trimmed with gimp braid



RIGHT: Plain rings trimmed with bias trim and a layer of ric-rac



### And don't forget:

- Camera or smartphone (to capture the best bits...)
- A notebook and pencil (...to write down the important bits)
- Consider what to wear. We'll be sitting for much of the day. In summer, cool and comfy clothes work well. In winter, bring layers. We have string heating but it's worth packing extra layers just in case.
- Something for lunch. There's a microwave, sink and kettle in the kitchen area and the village shop is a three-minute drive away
- Take as many or as few breaks as you want. We want you to achieve what you want but it's meant to be relaxed, informal and fun too.

### Parking

The course is held at the Traditional Upholstery School in Wiltshire. The address is Holt Holdings, East Lane, Holt, Wiltshire, BA14 6QU. Traditional Upholstery School are now part of a rural business estate, so there's plenty of parking.

When you drive in, park on the left, just outside the wooden gates. The School is inside the gates. The entrance is halfway along the large wooden barn-like building with a bench outside.

### Directions

#### From Holt on the B3107 towards Melksham

After Holt, take the first left into East Lane immediately after Hillview Riding Stables, signposted 'Atworth' and 'Broughton Gifford'.

Holt Holdings is about 200 metres along on the left. You'll see a convex mirror in the hedge opposite the turning.

#### From Melksham on the B3107 towards Holt and Bradford on Avon

About two miles along this winding road from Melksham, just past the West Wiltshire Equestrian Centre on the left, take a sharp right turning into East Lane, which is signposted 'Atworth' and 'Broughton Gifford'.

Holt Holdings is about 200 metres along the East Lane on the left. You'll see a convex mirror in the hedge opposite the turning.

### Any other queries?

If you have any requests, questions or concerns, please get in touch. Email [traditionalupholsteryschool@gmail.com](mailto:traditionalupholsteryschool@gmail.com)



Joanna Heptinstall