



GOLDEN SHEARS

est. 1974

COMPETITION RULES

Please read carefully before applying.

1. All applicants must either be on programmed UK or Ireland Company Training, or enrolled on a Further or Higher Education Course in the UK or Ireland, of which tailoring or apparel making is a part. No applicant with more than a total of seven years of Further or Higher Education and Industrial Training will be eligible.
2. There is no age limit.
3. Each applicant will enter a coordinating outfit of at least two garments, one for the top half of the body and the other for the bottom half. Only the two principal garments will be judged.
4. No entry may have been entered in any previous competition.
5. Garments may be for womenswear or menswear.
6. All entries must conform to the following sizes **(STRICTLY ADHERED TO – PLEASE REFER TO MEASUREMENT CHARTS PROVIDED ON PAGE 4.)**

WOMEN' WEAR	SIZE 10
MEN'S WEAR	SIZE 38
7. All work must be carried out by the entrant, but may be done under the direction of a tutor or trainer.
8. Each garment shall bear only the entrant's entry number. Under no circumstances shall any other identifying mark appear on any garment, design, pattern, nor its coat hanger, covering and packaging.

9. All entries must be accompanied by the **illustrated design and pattern** which must be made by the entrant and used to cut the garments. Each garment must be clearly marked, but only with the competition entry number.

10. All applications must be submitted **no later than Wednesday 28 October 2026**.

11. All entries including completed garments, illustrated design work and working patterns, to be received at the Merchant Taylors' Hall, 30 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8JB (Marked for the attention of Reception, Golden Shears) on the dates as follows:-

By Post, Courier, or by hand: **Between 4 January and 6 January 2027 ONLY.**

**ALL COSTS OF POSTAGE AND PACKING OR COURIER CHARGES
TO BE MET BY THE ENTRANT AT ALL TIMES.**

12. Each garment must be numbered for identification purposes: the numbered ticket to be attached to the outside of each garment on the front left side.

13. Finalists may borrow their outfits for portfolio/interviews, etc., between Stages One and Two, provided they give a signed undertaking the clothes will be returned in exactly the same condition as they were when released. Any changes will disqualify the entry.

14. Competitors, who do not qualify for the Final Judging will be notified and requested to collect their garments from the Merchant Taylors' Hall, after the first stage of Judging in January 2027. Collection dates to be confirmed. Finalists will collect their garments after the Final, apart from the three winners whose entries will be retained for a period of time.

15. All judges will be selected from non-participating Companies and Colleges.

16. The Golden Shears Committee reserves the right to use garments to publicise the competition and the trade at its discretion.

JUDGING – STAGE ONE

{70% OF THE TOTAL MARKS AWARDED}

The garments will be judged and marks given for the interpretation of design, accuracy of cutting and craft tailoring skills. Approximately twenty four outfits will go forward to the Final Stage of Judging.

JUDGING – STAGE TWO

{30% OF THE TOTAL MARKS AWARDED}

The best outfits will be selected to feature in the Golden Shears Final which will be hosted live at the Merchant Taylors' Hall along with the announcement of the Winners. A different panel of Judges (from Stage One) will award marks for style. These marks will be added to those previously gained in Stage One to ascertain the winners.

TROPHIES AND PRIZE MONEY

1. **THE GOLDEN SHEARS AND £3000** for the finest entry.
2. **THE SILVER SHEARS AND £2500** for the runner-up.
3. **THE SILVER SHEARS AND £2000** for the "Rising Star".
4. **A CERTIFICATE** signed by the Master of the Merchant Taylors' Company and the Chairman of the Judges, will be awarded to each competitor who qualifies for the Final Judging.

The Trophies will remain the property of the Merchant Taylors' Company but may be used for publicity purposes by the Winners subject to specific permission.

The winners will receive replica Shears Trophy for their retention.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE VIA

<https://www.goldenshears.co.uk/2027comp>

SIZE CHART FOR THE GOLDEN SHEARS AWARDS

Menswear: 38 Chest

Height: 6 Foot (183 cm)

Chest: 38 Inches (96 cm)

Waist: 32 Inches (82 cm)

Hips: 40 Inches (102 cm)

Cross Back (Half): 8 Inches (20.5 cm)

Sleeve Length from Crown to Cuff (Regular): 25 Inches (65 cm)

Jacket Length (Regular): 31 Inches (79 cm)

Inside Leg: 33 Inches, tolerance +1 Inch (+2 cm)

The above measures fit both the K&L size 38 chest and 100 cm stands.

Womenswear: UK Size 10

Height: 5 Foot 10 Inches (177 cm)

Bust: 34 Inches (86 cm)

Waist: 27 Inches (68 cm)

Hips: 36 Inches (92 cm)

Cross Back (Half): 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ Inches (17cm)

Sleeve Length from Crown to Cuff (Regular): 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ Inches (59 cm)

Jacket Length (Regular): 29 Inches (73 cm)

Inside Leg (Regular): 33 Inches (84 cm)

Skirt Length: Depend On Style

The above measures will fit both the K&L Size 10 stands.