

# 88 Days Documentation Pack

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Prove your specified work properly the first time. Subclass 417 and 462.

Most second-year refusals are not about the work. They are about the paperwork you could not produce six months later. This pack is the paperwork.

## What is inside

|                                             |                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1. What actually counts</b>              | Your subclass, the industry and the postcode, on one page.            |
| <b>2. Evidence checklist</b>                | What to be able to produce, and why each item earns its place.        |
| <b>3. Employer detail sheet</b>             | Fill it in on day one. Print one per employer.                        |
| <b>4. Day log</b>                           | 88 numbered days, four pages, room to write.                          |
| <b>5. Payslip and pay-rate check</b>        | What a real payslip has, and the employer who will cost you the days. |
| <b>6. Why applications get knocked back</b> | Don't do this. Do that.                                               |
| <b>7. Before you file</b>                   | Where to check the postcode, and what to read next.                   |

## How to use it

- Print it. All of it, black and white, whatever the hostel printer can manage.
- Print section 3 once for every employer you work for, and section 4 once.
- Fill the employer sheet on your first day, not on your last. People move on and farms close for the season.
- Photograph every payslip the day it lands, and keep the photos somewhere that is not your phone.

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**Last updated:** 2 September 2026

This is guidance, not migration advice. We are not registered migration agents. Check anything that matters against the Department of Home Affairs before you act on it.

# 1. What actually counts

Three things have to line up on the same job: your visa subclass, the industry, and the postcode of the place you physically work. Two out of three is nothing. A hostel in Cairns and a hostel in Byron Bay are the same job to you and a different answer to Home Affairs.

| Industry                                                                                                                                                         | Counts on a 417 in                                                                                                    | Counts on a 462 in                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Plant and animal cultivation</b><br>Fruit and vegetable picking and packing, pruning, shearing, butchery, dairy, herding, reforestation.                      | Regional Australia                                                                                                    | Northern Australia and other specified areas of regional Australia |
| <b>Fishing and pearling</b><br>Taking or catching fish and aquatic species; taking or culturing pearls or pearl shell.                                           | Regional Australia                                                                                                    | Northern Australia only                                            |
| <b>Tree farming and felling</b><br>Planting or tending trees meant to be felled, felling them, moving them.                                                      | Regional Australia                                                                                                    | Northern Australia only                                            |
| <b>Construction</b><br>Residential and non-residential building, civil engineering, site preparation, scaffolding, painting new builds, fencing.                 | Regional Australia                                                                                                    | Northern Australia and other specified areas of regional Australia |
| <b>Mining</b><br>Coal, oil and gas extraction, metal ore mining, quarrying, exploration, mining support services.                                                | Regional Australia                                                                                                    | Does not count. Mining is not on the 462 list                      |
| <b>Tourism and hospitality</b><br>Hotels, hostels, caravan parks, cafes, restaurants, pubs, tour guiding, dive instructing, tourist transport.                   | Northern, or Remote and Very Remote Australia, plus four listed tourism postcodes. Work done on or after 22 June 2021 | Same as the 417                                                    |
| <b>Bushfire recovery work</b><br>Rebuilding, land clearing, wildlife care, support work.                                                                         | A declared bushfire-affected area, work done after 31 July 2019. Volunteer work counts here                           | Same as the 417                                                    |
| <b>Flood, cyclone or severe weather recovery</b><br>Clean-up, demolition, repair, transport, coordination support.                                               | A declared natural-disaster area, work done after 31 December 2021. Volunteer work counts here                        | Same as the 417                                                    |
| <b>Critical COVID-19 work in healthcare and medical</b><br>Treatment, nursing, contact tracing, testing, research, cleaning of medical or quarantine facilities. | Anywhere in Australia, work done after 31 January 2020                                                                | Same as the 417                                                    |

## What the area names mean

- **Regional Australia:** all of South Australia, Tasmania, the Northern Territory and Norfolk Island, plus listed postcodes in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia.
- **Northern Australia:** all of the Northern Territory, plus listed postcodes in Queensland and Western Australia.
- **Remote and Very Remote Australia:** all of the Northern Territory, plus listed postcodes in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Western Australia.
- **The four tourism postcodes:** 4406, 4416 and 4498 in Queensland, 7215 in Tasmania.

## BRITISH PASSPORT, 417

British passport, subclass 417, applying on or after 1 July 2024: you do not need specified work at all for a second or third Working Holiday visa. Everything after this page is optional reading for you.

Postcode lists move. Ours come from the Home Affairs specified-work pages, which the department last changed on 5 April 2025, and we checked them on 2 September 2026. Confirm the postcode of the place you will actually be working before you accept the job. The 88 days checker on [workingholidayguide](#) does that in one step.

## TO DO BEFORE PUBLISHING

Three things are not in our verified sources, so we are not inventing them: what counts as a day on a part shift or a piece rate, whether days must be paid outside the two recovery categories, and how many days a third year needs. Check the Home Affairs page.

## 2. Evidence checklist

You declare your specified work when you apply, and you have to be able to stand behind the declaration. The department's exact document list for a second-year application is not in our verified sources, so treat this as the sensible superset rather than a list copied off a government page. Collecting all of it costs you nothing. Missing one item can cost you a year.

|  | What to keep                                                       | Why it matters                                                                                                                                        |
|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <b>Payslips for every pay period</b>                               | The only document that ties employer, dates, hours, rate and tax together in one place. If you keep one thing, keep these.                            |
|  | <b>Your tax file number, and proof you had it while you worked</b> | No TFN means 45 per cent withheld from your first shift, and a wage record that does not tie to a tax number is a weaker document than one that does. |
|  | <b>Bank statements showing the wages arriving</b>                  | Independent of your employer. If a business folds or stops answering emails, this is the record that still exists.                                    |
|  | <b>The employer's ABN and legal entity name</b>                    | The trading name on the gate is often not the name on the payslip. Write both down.                                                                   |
|  | <b>The street address and postcode of the worksite</b>             | Not the head office. The postcode of the paddock, site or building you stood in is the one that decides whether the day counted.                      |
|  | <b>Your written offer or contract</b>                              | Sets out the role and the pay basis, which matters if anyone later queries what you actually did.                                                     |
|  | <b>Supervisor name, role, phone and email</b>                      | A person who can confirm you were there. Get a personal mobile as well as the office line.                                                            |
|  | <b>Your own day log, filled in as you go</b>                       | Reconstructing dates from memory a year later is where most people come unstuck. A log written at the time reads as a log written at the time.        |
|  | <b>Dated photos of you at the worksite</b>                         | Weak on their own, useful alongside everything else, and free to take.                                                                                |
|  | <b>Your ATO income statement at the end of the financial year</b>  | A second, independent record of what you earned and from whom.                                                                                        |

*Tick the left column as you collect each one.*

### TO DO BEFORE PUBLISHING

Confirm the department's current evidence requirements, and whether a signed employer declaration is asked for, before you rely on this list alone. That detail is not in our verified sources.

### 3. Employer detail sheet

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One sheet per employer. Fill it in on your first day. If you work for four employers you print this four times, and the four sheets are the spine of your application.

|                                                                        |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Trading name (the name on the gate)                                    |  |
| Legal entity name (the name on the payslip)                            |  |
| ABN                                                                    |  |
| Worksite street address                                                |  |
| Suburb / town                                                          |  |
| State                                                                  |  |
| Worksite postcode                                                      |  |
| Postcode confirmed on the official list?<br>Yes / No      Date checked |  |
| Which industry row on page 1?                                          |  |
| Which visa subclass are you claiming on?    417 / 462                  |  |
| Supervisor name                                                        |  |
| Supervisor role                                                        |  |
| Supervisor phone                                                       |  |
| Supervisor email                                                       |  |
| First day worked                                                       |  |
| Last day worked                                                        |  |
| Days claimed from this employer                                        |  |
| Your role and actual duties                                            |  |
| Pay rate and basis (hourly / piece rate)                               |  |
| Pay period (weekly / fortnightly)                                      |  |
| Payslip received for every period?<br>Yes / No                         |  |
| Bank account the wages were paid into                                  |  |
| Notes                                                                  |  |

Keep this sheet with the payslips from the same employer. Scan or photograph both, and store a copy somewhere that survives losing your phone.

## 4. Day log · Days 1 to 22

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One line per day worked. Fill it in the evening of the day itself, while you still remember which block you were on. The notes column is where you write anything that would help you answer a question about that day in a year's time.

| #  | Date | Hours | Employer | Notes | Done |
|----|------|-------|----------|-------|------|
| 1  |      |       |          |       |      |
| 2  |      |       |          |       |      |
| 3  |      |       |          |       |      |
| 4  |      |       |          |       |      |
| 5  |      |       |          |       |      |
| 6  |      |       |          |       |      |
| 7  |      |       |          |       |      |
| 8  |      |       |          |       |      |
| 9  |      |       |          |       |      |
| 10 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 11 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 12 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 13 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 14 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 15 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 16 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 17 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 18 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 19 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 20 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 21 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 22 |      |       |          |       |      |

## 4. Day log · Days 23 to 44

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One line per day worked. Filled in the same evening, every time.

| #  | Date | Hours | Employer | Notes | Done |
|----|------|-------|----------|-------|------|
| 23 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 24 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 25 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 26 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 27 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 28 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 29 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 30 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 31 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 32 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 33 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 34 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 35 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 36 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 37 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 38 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 39 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 40 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 41 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 42 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 43 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 44 |      |       |          |       |      |

## 4. Day log · Days 45 to 66

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One line per day worked. Filled in the same evening, every time.

| #  | Date | Hours | Employer | Notes | Done |
|----|------|-------|----------|-------|------|
| 45 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 46 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 47 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 48 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 49 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 50 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 51 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 52 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 53 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 54 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 55 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 56 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 57 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 58 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 59 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 60 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 61 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 62 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 63 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 64 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 65 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 66 |      |       |          |       |      |

## 4. Day log · Days 67 to 88

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One line per day worked. Filled in the same evening, every time.

| #  | Date | Hours | Employer | Notes | Done |
|----|------|-------|----------|-------|------|
| 67 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 68 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 69 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 70 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 71 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 72 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 73 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 74 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 75 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 76 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 77 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 78 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 79 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 80 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 81 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 82 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 83 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 84 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 85 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 86 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 87 |      |       |          |       |      |
| 88 |      |       |          |       |      |

88 days logged. Check every one of them has a payslip behind it before you file.

## 5. Payslip and pay-rate sanity check

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The employer who pays you properly is also the employer whose paperwork holds up. The two problems arrive together, so treat the pay rate as an early warning about the documentation.

### What you should expect to see on a payslip

- The employer's name and ABN
- Your name
- The pay period start and end dates, and the date you were paid
- Gross pay and net pay
- The hours worked and the rate paid, or the piece rate and the units
- Tax withheld
- Superannuation contributions and the fund they went to
- Any deductions, itemised, including accommodation or transport

#### TO DO BEFORE PUBLISHING

The legally required contents of an Australian payslip are set by Fair Work, not by us, and that list is not in our verified sources. Confirm it against [fairwork.gov.au](http://fairwork.gov.au) before you rely on this as a legal minimum.

### Two numbers worth knowing

**AU\$24.10 an hour** the national minimum wage. An offer well below it is not a bargain you are lucky to have found.

**45 per cent** what is withheld from your pay if you have no tax file number. It is refundable once you sort it out, so sort it out in week one.

### Red flags

- Cash in hand, with no payslip. It pays better on the day and it proves nothing later.
- "Work a week unpaid and I'll sign off your days." Outside declared bushfire and disaster recovery, unpaid days are days you did not bank.
- A rate well under AU\$24.10 an hour, or a piece rate with no record of hours worked.
- Paperwork addressed from a city office when the work is two hours out of town. Ask which address will appear on your payslip.
- Being asked to pay for the job, for the accommodation before you start, or for a bus that only their workers use.
- Deductions that appear on your bank statement but not on any payslip.
- "The postcode doesn't matter, everyone here gets their days." It matters, and everyone here is not your problem.

If two or more of those apply, the days are at risk even if you work every one of them. Leaving early with a clean record beats finishing with nothing you can show.

## 6. Why applications get knocked back

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Nearly all of it is paperwork, and nearly all of it is fixable before you start rather than after.

**Don't** use the address on the employer's letterhead. Head offices sit in cities.

**Do** write down the postcode of the paddock, site or building you stood in. That is the one that decides.

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**Don't** assume hospitality counts because a farm town is regional.

**Do** check the area type against the industry. Picking counts in regional Australia. Bar work does not, unless the pub is in Northern or Remote and Very Remote Australia, or in one of the four tourism postcodes.

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**Don't** carry 417 rules onto a 462 visa. They are not the same list.

**Do** read your own column on page 1. Mining is not specified work on a 462 at all. Fishing, pearling, tree farming and felling only count in Northern Australia.

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**Don't** start work before your tax file number comes through and hope it sorts itself out.

**Do** apply the moment you land. Without a TFN you are taxed at 45 per cent from the first shift, and a payslip that does not tie to a tax number is a weaker document than one that does.

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**Don't** take cash in hand.

**Do** insist on a payslip for every pay period, with your name on it. The national minimum wage is AU\$24.10 an hour. An offer well under that tells you what the paperwork will look like later.

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**Don't** work unpaid to get your days signed off.

**Do** treat volunteering as counting in exactly two cases: declared bushfire recovery, and declared flood, cyclone or severe weather recovery. Everywhere else, unpaid days are days you did not bank.

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**Don't** count work you did before the industry's start date.

**Do** check the dates. Tourism and hospitality counts from 22 June 2021, bushfire recovery from 31 July 2019, disaster recovery from 31 December 2021, critical COVID-19 healthcare work from 31 January 2020.

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**Don't** leave the evidence until you apply. Employers move on. Farms close for the season, and the supervisor who knew you is in another state.

**Do** fill in the employer sheet on the day you start, and photograph every payslip the day it arrives.

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**Don't** treat this PDF as the rule. It is a printout, and it goes out of date the day Home Affairs edits a list.

**Do** confirm the postcode and the industry on the official page before you accept the job.

## 7. Before you file

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Two questions decide most of this, and both have an answer before you take the job rather than after you leave it. Is this postcode on the list for my subclass and my industry? Can I produce a payslip for every day I am claiming?

The 88 days checker at [workingholiday.guide/australia/88-days-checker](https://workingholiday.guide/australia/88-days-checker) answers the first one. Type the postcode, pick the industry and your subclass, and it tells you whether the day counts, or what condition it counts under.

The farm work guide at [workingholiday.guide/guides/farm-work/](https://workingholiday.guide/guides/farm-work/) covers the rest of it. Finding the work, what the seasons actually pay, which regions fill up when, and how to leave an employer without losing the days you already have.

### TWO LINKS WORTH KEEPING

[workingholiday.guide/australia/88-days-checker](https://workingholiday.guide/australia/88-days-checker) and [workingholiday.guide/guides/farm-work/](https://workingholiday.guide/guides/farm-work/). Bookmark both before you leave, because farm wifi is a rumour.

We are two people who did this ourselves and wrote down what we wish someone had told us. No agency fees, no upsells, and nothing on this site is for sale.

If something in this pack is wrong or out of date, tell us. Every figure in it is dated on purpose so you can see how old it is.

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