

Typical Roles of Men and Women in Australia Before World War II (1939–1945)

Men	Women
husbands	wives
fathers	mothers
breadwinners, who were paid enough money to support a family – a wife and two or three children	dependents, whose fathers or husbands worked to support their family, were paid enough money to support themselves only
worked until they were 60 or more	worked until they were married, then had babies and stayed home to look after them
did 'real' work, which required skill and so deserved higher wages	did work which was unskilled or semi-skilled, and for which they were 'naturally' suited
could do almost any type of work they were qualified for	could do jobs that people thought of as 'women's work'