



Career of the Week

The A-Z of Career Information | 2022-2023

What will you do?

- Transfer luggage from check-in areas to departure areas
- Make sure luggage gets onto the right plane
- Load luggage onto conveyors in the arrivals hall
- Report baggage that's damaged or suspicious

Working hours and environment

- You'll usually work in shifts that can last up to 12 hours and include evenings, weekends and public holidays.
- You'll work in airport buildings, cargo warehouses, aircraft holds and outdoors in all weathers.
- You'll usually need to wear ear defenders, high visibility clothing and safety shoes.
- You'll need a good level of personal fitness to lift and move heavy loads.

Career path and progression

With experience, you could work as a 'lead ramp hand', lining up planes ready for the next flight. You could also train staff on equipment and procedures.

You could move into supervisory management or passenger handling operations.

Salary

UK annual average: £24,470



Airport Baggage Handler

Airport baggage handlers load and unload luggage and cargo from aircraft.

What will you do?

- Follow story 'leads', or generating story ideas
- Prepare and conduct live and pre-recorded interviews
- Present in TV or radio studios or on location
- Ask questions at briefings and press conferences

Working hours and environment

- Your working hours could be long and irregular.
- You might need to work extra hours, evenings and weekends.
- You'll work in an office, a TV studio or from home, if freelance.
- You'll spend much of your time out-and-about covering stories.
- The work could involve local, national or international travel, often at very short notice.

Career path and progression

With experience, you could become a studio-based presenter or a special news correspondent. You could also move into programme making, producing or management.

Salary

UK annual average: £35,057

Broadcast journalist

Broadcast journalists research and present news stories and factual programmes on TV, radio and the internet.

What will you do?

- Talk to people about their abilities, interests and achievements
- Explore learning and work opportunities
- Help people make decisions and plans of action
- Give support to overcome barriers
- Keep to rules on equal opportunities
- Develop relationships with employers, colleges, universities and training providers
- Keep up to date with occupational and labour market information
- Give talks, updating records and meeting targets

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work 37 hours a week, Monday to Friday. You may need to work occasional evenings and your job could include a lot of local travel.

Career path and progression

You could specialise, for example in working with adults or people with special needs. With experience, you could become a manager. You could also become self-employed and work as a consultant, researcher or writer. Another option could be to move into industry and provide career management advice for employees of large companies.

Salary

UK annual average: £26,496

Careers adviser

Careers advisers help people make decisions about their education, training and work options.

What will you do?

- Specialise in an area like children's health, renal dietetics or cancer care
- Run clinics for people with diabetes or eating disorders, like anorexia or bulimia
- Work with catering services to create menus for patients with a range of dietary needs
- Raise awareness of the importance of healthy eating
- Run health promotion workshops
- Advise people who lack confidence, have depression or are on a low income

Working hours and environment

You'll work 35 to 40 hours a week. You may need to work some weekends.

Career path and progression

With experience you could become a team leader or department manager. You could also become self-employed. You might take further training to use your skills in education, manufacturing, research, journalism, marketing, advertising or public relations.

Salary

UK annual average: £36,956

Dietitian

Dietitians diagnose and treat people with nutrition problems, and help people make healthy lifestyle and diet decisions.

What will you do?

- Installation electrician - installing power systems, lighting, fire protection, security and data-network systems in all types of buildings
- Maintenance electrician - checking systems to make sure they're working efficiently and safely
- Electrotechnical panel builder - making and installing control panels to operate the electrical systems inside buildings
- Machine repair and rewind electrician - fixing and maintaining electrical motors and transformers
- Highway systems electrician - installing and maintaining street lighting and traffic management systems

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work 30 to 40 hours, Monday to Friday. You may work shifts or be on call. You may have to travel between jobs and work away from home. You may have to work around other trades. You may have to work in all weathers, in cramped spaces or at height.

Career path and progression

With experience, you could move into design engineering, site or project management, consultancy work or training. You could also set up your own business.

Salary

UK annual average: £28,337

Electrician

Electricians fit, service and fix electrical equipment, circuits, machinery and wiring.

What will you do?

- Assess people's fitness and creating personal exercise programmes
- Demonstrate activities, exercise machines and weights
- Help people exercise safely
- Lead group exercise classes like circuit training or aerobics
- Give advice on healthy eating and lifestyle
- Maintain records
- Follow health and safety guidelines and maintaining equipment
- Market your classes

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work around 40 hours a week. You could work shifts covering early mornings, evenings and weekends. You may need a driving licence to travel to clients or a more remote location like a spa.

Career path and progression

You could take further training to become a personal trainer or teach extra activities. With experience and qualifications, you could become a senior instructor or manager. You could also start your own fitness club.

Salary

UK annual average: £22,712

Fitness instructor

Fitness instructors organise exercise programmes to improve people's health and fitness.

What will you do?

- Concept artist – you'll create the overall look and feel of a game world, together with the first designs of people, creatures, and objects.
- 3D modelling artist – you'll use the 2D drawings from a concept artist to build 3D models of characters, weapons, vehicles, furniture, trees, rocks, etc.
- Environment artist – you'll design fantasy landscapes and realistic landscapes, in which the game will be played.
- Texturing artist – you'll add realism to 3D models by mapping textures onto the object's surfaces.

Working hours and environment

As a games artist, your working hours will depend on whether you work for an employer or as a self-employed freelancer. If you decide to work for an employer, you're likely to work full-time, although flexible hours and time off in lieu are often possible. If you're self-employed, it can be more flexible and you'll be able to select clients and projects to suit your availability.

Career path and progression

You're likely to begin your career with a junior/intern art role. From there, you'll receive training on the job and will have the opportunity to shadow other games artists. Some employers also offer in-house training in relevant software packages. You can then move on to a senior artist and lead artist role.

Salary

UK annual average: £26,977

Games artist

Games artists create designs for the environment, objects, people, creatures, and overall feel of a game.

What will you do?

- Set the school's values and communicate them to pupils, staff, parents and the community
- Create and maintain a healthy and safe space for learning
- Decide staff priorities and delegate tasks
- Set high expectations of achievement for staff and pupils
- Use data to track performance and produce reports
- Inform parents and pupils about progress
- Select, support, assess and develop staff
- Control school finances
- Work with external advisers and school governors

Entry requirements

To become a headteacher, you'll first need experience as a teacher. You need Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) to teach in most primary, secondary and special schools in England. If you have a degree or equivalent qualification, you can do postgraduate primary or secondary teacher training. If you do not have a degree and are not studying for one, you can do undergraduate teacher training. You'll then usually step up as a deputy head or other senior manager. You'll have experience of extra responsibilities, for example as a co-ordinator of literacy or head of pastoral care. You'll need training and qualifications in school management, for example the National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership (NPQSL) or the National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH).

Career path and progression

Due to the variety of schools in the UK, there are opportunities to move between different types and sizes of school. You could also train to be an Ofsted inspector, an education adviser or become a teacher training lecturer in a college or university.

Salary

UK annual average: £69,513

Headteacher

Headteachers manage schools. They create the right conditions for children and staff to achieve their best.

What will you do?

- Work at national and international conferences, lectures and meetings
- Sit in a soundproof booth listening to the speaker through headphones
- Interpret speeches at the same time as the speaker and pass on the interpreted version through headsets
- You may also use telephone, video or internet-based equipment.

Working hours and environment

You may have to attend conferences and meetings in the evening or at weekends. Telephone and video-conferencing work with clients in other countries may require flexible hours due to time differences. Many interpreters work on a freelance basis. Working from home and part-time contract work is common.

Career path and progression

You'll usually need: a degree in languages or interpreting or a postgraduate qualification in interpreting.

You could become a member of a professional association like [CIOL](#), [Institute of Translation and Interpreting](#), or the [International Association of Conference Interpreters](#).

If you're working in the public sector, you could join the [NRPSI](#). You could combine interpreting with translating or teaching. You could also move into management.

Salary

UK annual average: £30,934



Interpreter

Interpreters convert the spoken word from one language into another, either face-to-face or remotely.

What will you do?

- In cases without a jury, the judge will determine the facts of the case. In other words, they will look at the evidence/arguments presented by both sides and work out what actually happened.
- In cases where a jury is needed, judges will brief the jurors on what the law says and may offer further guidance but will allow them to determine the facts of the case for themselves.

Working hours and environment

Court sitting hours (i.e. the times at which courts are open and hearing cases) normally run from 10:30am to 4:30pm. In addition to this, most judges do a lot of work outside those hours writing judgments and reading files of evidence and letters relating to current and future (and sometimes past) cases.

Career path and progression

Some justice systems require several years' experience as a lawyer before you can apply to be a judge. With experience and increased expertise as a judge, there is the opportunity to work in specialist courts. Further experience could lead to working in higher courts. Most countries have several tiers of courts, with the most significant or high-profile cases being heard at the top of the court system by the most experienced and respected judges.

Salary

UK annual average: *£51,561
*salary for legal professionals

Judge

Judges are public officials who administer the law, presiding over trials and deciding the outcomes.

What will you do?

- Support chefs in a specific work section
- Washing, peel and prepare food items
- Use a variety of kitchen equipment such as mixers, special knives and cutters
- Organise the storeroom
- Wash kitchen appliances, work surfaces, floors and walls

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work shifts, evenings, weekends and public holidays. If you're based at a factory or catering business, your hours might be more regular than in a restaurant. Part-time, casual or seasonal work may be available. Your working environment will often be hot, busy and noisy. You may not be suited to this work if you have certain skin conditions.

Career path and progression

You'll usually need practical skills and an interest in preparing food and drink. You could take a college course to help prepare you for this job. With experience and further training, you could become a trainee or junior chef. You could also progress into management or move into bar work or food service.

Salary

UK annual average: £16,254

Kitchen assistant

Kitchen assistants prepare food, make sure chefs have everything they need, and keep the kitchen clean.

What will you do?

- Discuss clients' needs
- Work from plans made by garden designers or landscape architects
- Order supplies
- Prepare the ground or interior space
- Turfing and seeding lawns
- Planting and pruning trees and shrubs
- Install features like paving, paths, water features and rock gardens
- Advise the client on how to look after the space
- Provide on-going maintenance

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work up to 40 hours a week, including early starts and some weekend work. You'll spend a lot of time outdoors, in all weathers, unless you're working in interior areas. You'll need to wear protective clothes like overalls and a hard hat, which will be supplied by employers. A driving licence would be useful to travel to the sites you're working on.

Career path and progression

In larger firms, you could progress to a supervisory or management position. With experience, you could become a self-employed contractor. You could also move into a teaching role.

Salary

UK annual average: £21,496

Landscaper

Landscapers create and maintain gardens, parks and other outdoor and interior areas.



What will you do?

- Collect data from satellite images, radar, remote sensors and weather stations
- Measure air pressure, wind, temperature and humidity
- Predict the weather by analysing information and using computer programmes
- Give weather information and reports to customers
- Study weather patterns and climate change
- Improve computer predictions
- Study how the weather affects the spread of pollution or disease

Working hours and environment

As a forecaster or observer you'll work 30 to 40 hours a week, including shifts and at weekends. As a researcher you'll work 30 to 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday. You'll work in an office, but may sometimes have to travel to remote places, or to attend conferences in the UK and overseas.

Career path and progression

You'll usually need a degree in a related subject like: Physics, Maths, Environmental Studies, Geography or Computer Science.

With experience you could manage a team of weather forecasters. You could also move into teaching and train future forecasters and scientists.

Salary

UK annual average: *£38,773

*Natural and social science professionals

Meteorologist

Meteorologists collect and study data to make weather forecasts.

What will you do?

- Take temperatures, blood pressures and pulse rates
- Help doctors with physical examinations
- Give drugs and injections
- Clean and dress wounds
- Set up drips and blood transfusions
- Use medical equipment
- Work with doctors to decide what care to give
- Advise patients and their relatives
- Handle confidential information

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work 37.5 hours a week including evenings, weekends, night shifts and bank holidays. The job can be physically demanding. Most jobs are in the NHS. You could work in hospital wards, nursing homes, hospices, schools, colleges, private hospitals and in the community, visiting patients at home.

Career path and progression

You'll need to do a degree in nursing. You'll likely choose a specialisation as you do your degree and get training in specific areas. You could train as a midwife, neonatal nurse, health visitor, district or practice nurse. You could move into management, as a matron or director of nursing. With a master's, you could become an advanced nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist then a nurse consultant.

Salary

UK annual average: £35,971

Nurse

Nurses give care, advice and support to adults who are sick, injured or have physical disabilities.

What will you do?

- Instruct dental officers and technical assistants in orthodontic procedures and techniques
- Fit dental appliances in patients' mouths to alter the position and relationship of teeth and jaws or to realign teeth
- Diagnose teeth and jaw or other dental-facial abnormalities
- Examine patients to assess abnormalities of jaw development, tooth position, and other dental-facial structures.
- Provide patients with proposed treatment plans and cost estimates.

Working hours and environment

In general practice you'll usually work between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. You'll occasionally work in the evenings or at weekends, or on an out-of-hours rota. In a hospital, you'll usually work slightly longer and more irregular hours including night shifts. You'll usually need to wear a tunic, surgical gloves and safety glasses to reduce the risk of infection.

Career path and progression

To become an orthodontist, you must first qualify as a dentist by completing a five-year Bachelor of Dentistry. You will then have to complete a further two to three years of study for a Masters in Orthodontics. Before a dentist can begin their orthodontic training, they need to gain experience working in maxillofacial surgery, restorative dentistry and paediatric dentistry. Many orthodontists elect to open their own practices, specialising in particular types of treatments and working primarily with specific demographics of patients.

Salary

UK annual average: £49,184

Orthodontist

Examine, diagnose, and treat dental malocclusions and oral cavity anomalies. Design and fabricate appliances to realign teeth and jaws to produce and maintain normal function and to improve appearance.

What will you do?

- Print onto various materials, including paper, board, textiles, plastic film, metallic foils, or even glass and mirrors
- Handle printing machinery
- Use computer software to price jobs, and managing orders and invoices
- Stocktake and negotiate to buy materials from suppliers
- Supervise orders through the preparation, printing and finishing stages
- Solve problems in the production process
- Make sure work is finished to deadlines and to budget

Working hours and environment

In buying or sales, you'll usually work 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. In production control, you may work shifts, including nights. When working in a production area you'll normally be expected to wear safety clothing.

Career path and progression

You'll need GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) in English, maths, science, art and IT, or equivalent qualifications. Supervisory management or printing industry experience would be helpful. With experience, you could move into supervisory, departmental management and general management roles.

Salary

UK annual average: *£25,000

*Plant and machine operatives

Printer

Printers work in the production process of the printing, packaging and graphics industry.

What will you do?

- Find out a client's needs and assessing if their plans are feasible
- Work out quantities and costs of materials, time and labour for tenders
- Negotiate contracts and work schedules
- Advise on legal matters, including risks and disputes
- monitoring sub-contractors and stages of construction
- writing regular reports on costs and preparing accounts for payment
- keeping up to date with construction methods and materials
- following health and safety and building regulations

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm. You may work evenings or weekends. Hours may be longer if you work on-site as a contractor. You'll spend time in an office and visiting building sites. You'll usually need a full driving licence.

Career path and progression

You'll need a degree or professional qualification accredited by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). This can be a quantity surveying degree or a postgraduate conversion course from any degree. With experience, you could become a senior quantity surveyor or move into senior project management, supply chain management, consultancy work or self-employment. You could specialise in areas like planning, risk assessment or contract disputes.

Salary

UK annual average: £45,063

Quantity surveyor

Quantity surveyors oversee construction projects, managing risks and controlling costs.

What will you do?

- Install, calibrate, operate, or maintain robots
- Conduct research on robotic technology to create new robotic systems or system capabilities
- Investigate mechanical failures or unexpected maintenance problems
- Build, configure, or test robots or robotic applications
- Design robotic systems, such as automatic vehicle control, autonomous vehicles, advanced displays, advanced sensing, robotic platforms, computer vision, or telematics systems

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work around 40 hours a week. You may work longer to meet project deadlines. You'll usually work in an office or a lab. You may work in factories, workshops or outdoors.

Career path and progression

You'll need to do a degree or postgraduate qualification in: artificial intelligence and robotics, mechatronics, robotics engineering, mechanical engineering, electronics engineering, computer science or mathematics. You could become a lead engineer, with overall responsibility for managing a project. You could also specialise in a particular area of robotics, for example self-driving vehicles, space exploration, surgical instruments or deep ocean research.

Salary

UK annual average: *£49,367
*electronics engineer

Robotics engineer

Research, design, develop or test robotic applications.

What will you do?

- Plan fun, engaging coaching activities, sessions and programmes in a safe environment
- Give feedback on performance and help to improve technique work with young people, schools, community groups and sports organisations to promote the sport
- Design basic training programmes
- Work on developing more advanced techniques and tactics
- Support performers at events and competitions

Working hours and environment

You'll often work in the evenings and at weekends, especially during competitions. You'll usually work long hours if coaching at a high level. Competitions take place all over the UK and abroad, so you'll spend time away from home. You'll work in a variety of places, like schools, health centres, private health clubs and sports clubs. You'll spend a lot of time outside in all weather conditions.

Career path and progression

You'll need a coaching qualification that's recognised by the national governing body (NGB) for your sport. You'll also need clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). With qualifications and experience, you could become a coach development officer, helping other coaches develop their skills and qualifications.

Salary

UK annual average: £22,865

Sports coach

Sports coaches teach sports skills to individuals and teams of all sporting abilities.

What will you do?

- Check the carriages are clean before the start of a journey
- Make sure equipment, doors and controls are working properly
- Walk through carriages during the journey, checking tickets and travel documents
- Answer passengers' questions about routes, arrival times and connections
- Make announcements over the public address system
- Make sure passengers get on and off the train safely
- Deal with unexpected delays or emergencies

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work 35 to 37 hours a week, possibly on a shift system including early mornings, late nights and weekends. You'll work from a cab on the train, but may also spend time on the platform. Your employer will supply you with a uniform.

Career path and progression

There are no set entry qualifications for this role, although employers will expect you to have a good standard of English and Maths. TOCs often promote existing station staff to conductor jobs, so you may be able to transfer from a platform assistant or onboard catering host role. With experience, you may be able to progress to senior conductor or train manager, or transfer to a driver training programme.

Salary

UK annual average: £34,572

Train conductor

Train conductors issue tickets to rail passengers and make sure that their journeys are safe and comfortable.

What will you do?

- Document or review patients' histories.
- Treat urologic disorders using alternatives to traditional surgery such as extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy, laparoscopy, or laser techniques
- Order and interpret the results of diagnostic tests, such as prostate specific antigen (PSA) screening, to detect prostate cancer
- Examine patients using equipment, such as radiograph (x-ray) machines or fluoroscopes, to determine the nature and extent of disorder or injury
- Prescribe medications to treat patients with erectile dysfunction (ED), infertility, or ejaculation problems. Teach or train medical and clinical staff

Working hours and environment

You'll work in a team with a regular working pattern. Very rarely seated, you'll often work more than 40 hours per week.

Career path and progression

Before you train as a urologist / urology surgeon you must complete a degree in medicine and have obtained a MBBS or equivalent qualification. You then need to complete a two-year foundation programme and then two years of core training.

With experience, you may go on to lead a team or manage a department. With experience and entry on the General Medical Council (GMC) Specialist Register, you could apply for senior (or consultant) roles. You may also progress to teaching and training students, trainee doctors and other healthcare professionals.

Salary

UK annual average: £64,504

Urologist

Diagnose, treat, and help prevent benign and malignant medical and surgical disorders of the genitourinary system and the renal glands.

What will you do?

- Agree a finished 'look' for the final footage
- Transfer film or video footage
- Use editing software
- Keep a clear idea of the storyline
- Create a 'rough cut'
- Digitally improve picture quality
- Create DVDs or format footage to view online

Working hours and environment

Your hours will depend on the production you're working on. You may work standard office hours or shifts. You'll need to be flexible and work at short notice if necessary. You may also work much longer hours, in some cases up to 60 hours a week, to meet project deadlines. You'll work in studios and editing suites. You'll spend long periods on a computer.

Career path and progression

Once established, you might use an agent to find work and negotiate your fees. You could set up your own company.

Salary

UK annual average: £24,887

Video editor

Video editors bring together images and sound for use in film, TV and online.

What will you do?

- Meet couples to discuss their requirements and budget
- Come up with creative ideas and themes
- Advise on wedding customs and etiquette
- Prepare proposals and quotations for the work
- Agree prices with suppliers like florists, photographers, caterers and venues
- Being at the venue on the day of the wedding to make sure everything goes to plan
- Research new products, services and suppliers

Working hours and environment

You're likely to work long hours, particularly during peak wedding season (May to September). Meetings with couples often take place in the evening and at weekends. On the day of the wedding, you may work a 12-hour day, or longer. You'll be based in an office or work from home. You'll also spend time travelling to see clients, suppliers and venues.

Career path and progression

You could set up your own wedding planning consultancy or event management company.

Salary

UK annual average: £26,898

Wedding planner

Wedding planners help couples have the wedding they want.

What will you do?

- Use images to diagnose, treat and manage medical conditions
- Prepare written reports of the results of your examinations
- Perform interventional procedures, such as image-guided biopsy, percutaneous transluminal angioplasty, transhepatic biliary drainage, or nephrostomy catheter placement
- Examine patient anatomy, pathology, clinical history and previous imaging
- Offer specialist expertise and guidance to other doctors and staff
- Develop treatment plans for radiology patients
- Supervise and teach residents or medical students.

Working hours and environment

Typically, you will work more than 40 hours per week in a highly responsible role within a clinic or hospital. You will be working as part of a team but will have freedom to make your own decisions.

Career path and progression

To become a clinical radiologist, you'll need to first complete a degree in medicine recognised by the GMC, which usually takes five to six years. If you've already got a degree in a subject other than medicine (usually a 2:1 or above in a science-related subject) you can apply for a four-year accelerated graduate entry medicine programme.

As a consultant you'll gradually gain more clinical experience and take on more managerial responsibilities. It's not unusual for clinical radiologists to be recruited to higher management levels such as medical director, chief executive or dean. There are also opportunities to work in the private sector and government agencies, as well as directing professional and scientific societies.

Salary

UK annual average: £64,504

X-Ray operator (radiologist)

Radiologists are doctors who interpret diagnostic images such as X-rays, MRI and CT scans, and provide written reports.

What will you do?

- Design course and lesson plans for a range of abilities
- Teach a wide range of simple and complex yoga positions
- Adapt positions for conditions like pregnancy or arthritis
- Teach breathing habits
- Assess your students
- Review your own courses and teaching skills

Working hours and environment

Many yoga teachers work part-time, and often have another job in a similar role, like teaching other fitness classes. You'll usually set your own working hours, which may include evenings and weekends. The job is physically demanding. You could work at several sites, like sports centres or health clinics, all of which will involve local travel.

Career path and progression

You'll usually need a record of attending regular Pilates or Yoga classes and a recognised training qualification like the Level 3 Diploma in Mat Pilates.

With experience you could run your own yoga workshops, yoga retreats, or holidays. You may be able to train as a yoga therapist or take further qualifications to train yoga teachers.

Salary

UK annual average: £22,712

Yoga teacher

Yoga teachers teach yoga as a form of exercise to increase fitness and well-being.

What will you do?

- Prepare food and feeding animals
- Clean out pens and cages and change bedding
- Make sure animals live in as close to natural conditions as possible
- Check for signs of distress or disease and caring for sick animals
- Check enclosures and cages for signs of wear or damage
- Monitor conditions like temperature and humidity
- Keep daily healthcare records on paper and computer
- Give educational talks to children and adults

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work shifts including weekends and bank holidays. Outside your working hours, you may be on a rota for call-outs. You could spend a lot of time outside in all weathers. This work is physically demanding. You may need a driving licence if you're working in a large zoo or safari park.

Career path and progression

In larger zoos, you could progress from keeper to team leader or head keeper. With experience and a degree, you could become a curator. You could also move into education or conservation research.

Salary

UK annual average: £20,144

Zookeeper

Zookeepers look after animals in zoos, safari parks and aquariums.

What will you do?

- Create detailed technical plans using computer-aided design software
- Create a plan, following building laws and safety regulations
- Work towards budgets
- Manage construction
- Choose materials
- Check building work and progress

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work 35 to 40 hours, Monday to Friday. You'll work in an office or studio. You'll often travel to sites and have meetings with clients, planning departments and builders. When visiting sites, you'll wear protective clothing.

Career path and progression

You'll need to complete a 5-year degree in architecture recognised by the [Architects Registration Board](#) (ARB) and have 2 years' professional experience. There are also two architecture degree apprenticeships routes in the UK which provide practical experience with academic training from a university: Level 6 Architectural Assistant, including Part 1 qualification and Level 7 Architect, including Part 2 and Part 3 qualifications

If you're working for a private architectural firm, you may be able to move up to become a partner or associate. In public sector roles, with experience you could move into a lead architect job. You could also work on projects as a freelance consultant, or set up your own business. You may get opportunities to work overseas.

Salary

UK annual average: £43,000

Architect

Architects design new buildings and the spaces around them, and work on the restoration and conservation of existing buildings.

What will you do?

- Handle money and take correct fares
- Check tickets and passes
- Give timetable or route information
- Help passengers who are having difficulty getting on or off the vehicle
- Drive safely and keep to timetable schedules

Working hours and environment

On local services you could drive for a maximum of 10 hours a day. On longer trips, you'll usually drive for a maximum of 9 hours a day, up to 56 hours in a week, or up to 90 hours over 2 weeks. If you take holiday tours, you could be away from home for several days or weeks at a time. If you drive school buses, you may work term-time only. A uniform is usually provided.

Career path and progression

With experience, you could become a service controller or inspector, depot manager or driver training instructor.

Salary

UK annual average: £25,149

Bus driver

Bus and coach drivers transport passengers on local, national or overseas journeys.

What will you do?

- Write the text for newsletters or blogs
- Create videos and podcasts, including filming, editing and uploading to digital channels
- Manage or contribute to social media content
- Writing press releases and organising press events, such as interviews and photography opportunities
- Writing reports on the performance of digital channels
- Deliver presentations on your reports to senior management teams
- Proofread text for websites, newsletters and press releases
- Create a communications strategy which includes a timeline and targets for all of the above methods

Working hours and environment

You will usually be based at home, in an office, or as a combination of both, typically working eight-hour days from Monday to Friday. Some Communications work may involve attending events, so this might mean occasionally travelling to different locations, or working unsociable hours.

Career path and progression

To be a Communications officer, you will not normally need any specific qualifications. However, studying a relevant subject (see Related university subject profiles) could give you an edge over other applicants. You could progress to the role of Senior communications officer, Communications manager and potentially Head or Director of communications.

Salary

UK annual average: £30,324

Communications Officer

Communications officers are responsible for the external, and sometimes internal, communications delivered by a company or organisation.

What will you do?

- Work with volunteers who foster puppies and young dogs
- Help dogs to adjust to the routine of basic training
- Train at a more advanced level related to the dog's future work
- Matching dogs to owners
- Train dogs and owners together
- Provide aftercare and support for owner-dog partnerships

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work 35 hours a week, Monday to Friday, with occasional evenings and weekends. The job involves a lot of walking and bending, and being outside in all weather conditions. You'll travel all over the country to visit dogs and their owners.

Career path and progression

With experience you could progress to a role like area team supervisor, training manager or regional training manager. Your experience as a trainer could lead to a care support job, like rehabilitation worker. You could move into a related field, like veterinary nursing or working as an [RSPCA](#) inspector.

Salary

UK annual average: £20,144

Dog trainer

Dog trainers and instructors train dogs for service or to improve behaviour.

What will you do?

- Coming up with ideas for how to develop your product or business
- Presenting pitches to potential investors or buyers
- Developing the sales strategy of your business
- Leading the marketing and communications strategy, which includes overseeing advertising, social media, and press opportunities
- Managing budgets and completing financial reports
- Interviewing and recruiting the staff needed to run your business
- Meeting with investors, clients, or colleagues across the industry to discuss shared projects or conduct research

Working hours and environment

Your working hours could be long, especially at the start of your business. You'll need to invest lots of time in promoting your business, researching the industry and hiring and training employees. This will mean needing to be flexible, and possibly travelling for meetings.

Career path and progression

There are no set entry requirements to become an Entrepreneur, as it relies on your own vision. However, it can help to get experience in the different business areas you'll be taking on from the start, like business skills or marketing. Your progression will depend on the success of your business. You may continue working at the business for years to come, for example in a position of leadership like CEO or Director, as you take on more employees. With experience, you could also set up more businesses, or use your experience to move into a creative or leadership role in another company.

Salary

UK annual average: £87,937*

* Chief executives and senior officials

Entrepreneur

An Entrepreneur is someone who sets up their own business or company, taking on financial risk in the hope of making a profit.

What will you do?

- Inspect and maintain equipment
- Carry out practice drills and take part in training
- Rescue people and animals from burning buildings and accident sites
- Control and put out fires
- Deal with bomb alerts and floods
- Manage chemical or hazardous substance spills
- Give presentations to schools and community groups
- Inspect buildings to make sure they meet fire safety regulations

Working hours and environment

If you're full-time, you'll work a 42 hour week which includes shifts to cover a 24 hour service. A typical shift pattern is 2 day shifts, 2 night shifts and 4 days off-duty. This job can be stressful and demanding, both physically and emotionally. You'll often work in uncomfortable and dangerous situations, for example at heights, around toxic chemicals or in enclosed spaces.

Career path and progression

You must be 18, although you can apply slightly earlier if you'll be 18 by the time you get the job. You'll need to pass a series of physical and written tests, a medical and an interview. You may need GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 in English and Maths, depending on which fire service you want to join. You could work your way up to crew manager, watch manager or station manager. If you're prepared to move between services, you could also become an area manager, a brigade manager or a chief fire officer.

Salary

UK annual average: £36,808



Firefighter

Firefighters save people and property from fire and other dangers, and give advice on fire prevention.

What will you do?

- Preparing land for laying turf (grass)
- Rolling and mowing grass
- Marking lines on pitches or greens
- Installing and maintaining equipment
- Operating equipment like strimmers and ride-on mowers

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work around 37 hours a week. This could include evenings and weekends.

You'll spend most of your time outside. You may need to travel between sites.

Career path and progression

There are no set requirements, but experience in gardening or a qualification in horticulture or sports and amenity turf maintenance could help.

You could get into this job through an apprenticeship.

With experience, you could progress to supervisor, team leader or head of section.

Salary

UK annual average: £21,151



Groundsperson

A groundsperson, or greenkeeper, looks after sports grounds like football, cricket or rugby pitches.

What will you do?

- Helping patients shower and get dressed
- Helping people eat
- Making beds
- Using equipment to lift and move patients
- Talking to patients and reassuring them
- Helping patients to the toilet
- Tidying the ward or patients' homes
- Taking patients' temperature or pulse
- Attending meetings with other healthcare professionals

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work around 37 hours a week in shifts, including nights, bank holidays and weekends. If you work in the community, you'll travel between patients' homes.

Career path and progression

When you're looking for work, you'll find it useful to have GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 in English and Maths, a qualification in health care and/or some paid or unpaid experience in health or social care. You could get into this role through an apprenticeship.

With experience you could train new healthcare assistants. With training, you could become an assistant practitioner in chiropody or podiatry, occupational therapy, radiography or physiotherapy. You could also apply to train as a nurse, radiographer, dietitian, midwife or social worker.

Salary

UK annual average: £22,093

Healthcare Assistant

Healthcare support workers help look after patients in hospitals or in patients' own homes.

What will you do?

- Plan delivery schedules and routes with transport managers
- Supervise or help to load and unload goods
- Make sure loads are safely secured
- Follow traffic reports and change your route if necessary
- Complete delivery paperwork and log books

Working hours and environment

You'll usually work up to 42 hours a week. Overtime may be available but there are strict laws about the amount of hours you can spend driving between rest breaks. Most of your time would be spent on the road, and you would drive day and night in all weather conditions. Overnight stays may be necessary.

Career path and progression

You could take further training and gain an [ADR \(Advisory Dangerous Goods by Road\) Certificate](#) to drive hazardous goods like toxic chemicals by tanker. With experience, you could train to become an LGV instructor, freight transport planner or move into management.

Salary

UK annual average: £30,994

Large goods vehicle driver

Large goods vehicle (LGV) and heavy goods vehicle (HGV) lorry drivers transport and deliver goods between suppliers and customers.

What will you do?

- Measure and plan to give cost and time estimates
- Cut, bend and join pipes and fittings
- Install water, drainage and heating systems
- Find and fix faults
- Service gas and oil-fired central heating systems and radiators
- Install and fix domestic appliances like showers and washing machines
- Deal with emergency call-outs like boiler breakdowns
- Fit weather-proof materials, joints and flashings to roofs, chimneys and walls

Working hours and environment

As an employee, you'll usually work between 37 and 40 hours a week. You could work evenings, weekends and public holidays, if your firm offers an emergency call-out service. Self-employed plumbers can work longer hours. You'll be working in all weathers, and some of your work will be in confined spaces. You'll travel locally between jobs but you may have to work away from home on some contracts. A driving licence will usually be required.

Career path and progression

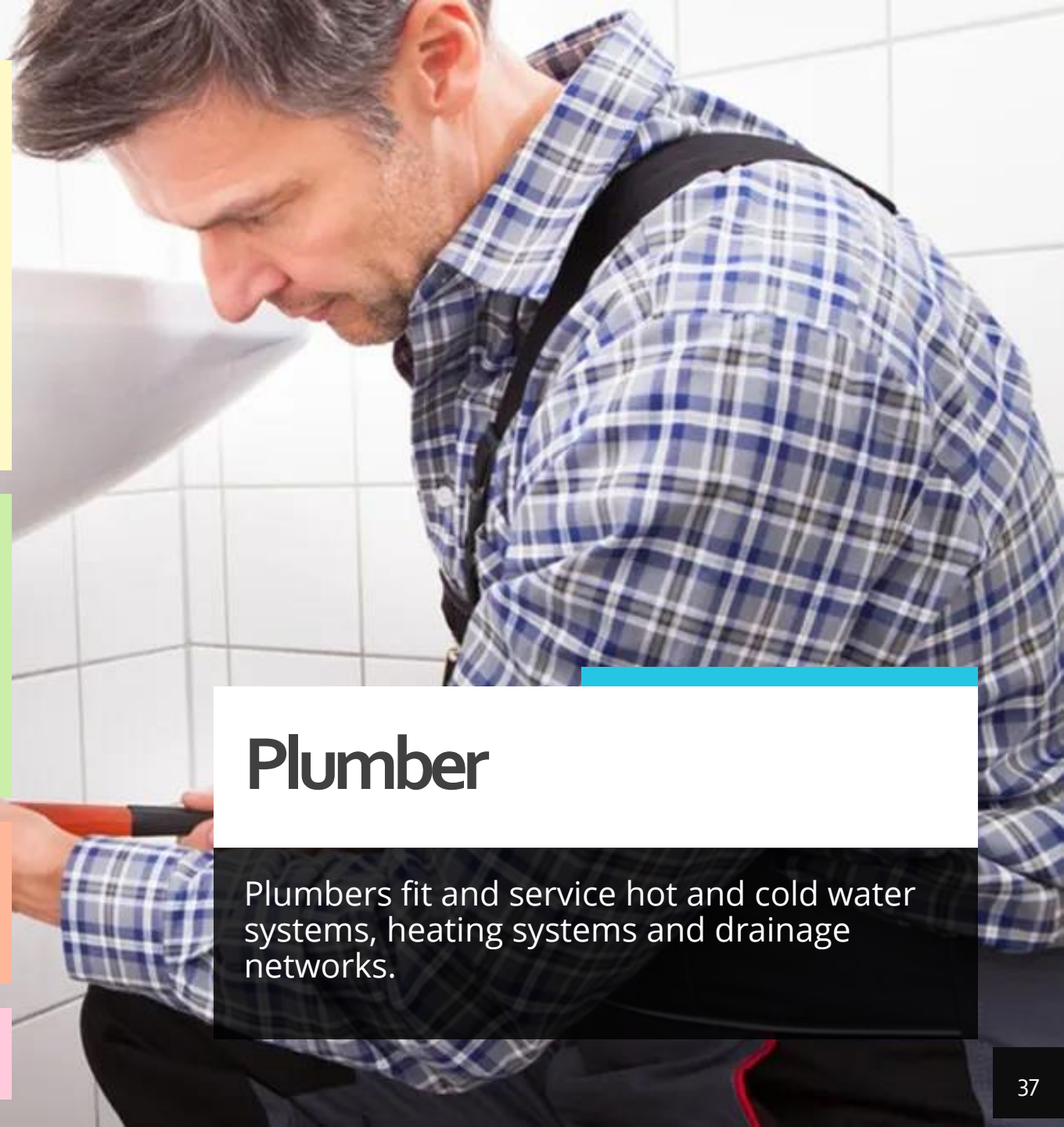
You can develop your skills by taking further training in areas such as heating, ventilation and air-conditioning, and renewable energy technologies like solar powered heating.

Salary

UK annual average: £31,695

Plumber

Plumbers fit and service hot and cold water systems, heating systems and drainage networks.



What will you do?

- Assess the effect of new rail links or roads
- Plan for houses and renewable energy generation sites like wind farms
- Redesign urban spaces and developing parks, woodlands and waterways in a sustainable way
- Conserve old buildings and archaeological sites
- Develop local or national planning policies for government
- Make decisions about planning applications
- Make sure planning rules and regulations are carried out

Working hours and environment

You'll work 35 to 40 hours a week. You may also attend events like public meetings in the evenings. You'll work in a planning office. You'll need to travel to meetings and site visits.

Career path and progression

With experience, you could apply for [chartered town planner](#) status, and then become a planner or senior planner. With at least 10 years' experience you could become a senior manager or planning consultant. You could work as a self-employed consultant.

Salary

UK annual average: £29,165

Town planner

Town planners help shape the way towns and cities develop, and balance the demands on land with the needs of the community.