



# JOB of the Week



**Job name:** Mechanic

**Job description:** A Mechanic repairs, maintains, inspects, and installs machinery and parts. Completes diagnostic tests using manual tools and technological devices. Works with customers and co-workers to establish a timeframe for the completion of each project.

**Tasks you will undertake in the job:** As a motor mechanic, you'll:

- Work with colleagues or customers to determine the possible source of machinery problems and define what issues need to be solved
- Conduct thorough inspections and evaluations of problematic machinery or parts to identify issues
- Utilise technological devices to complete diagnostic tests of mechanical and electrical systems
- Order and replace parts and components and repairs body damage as needed
- Perform regular inspections and maintenance on working machinery to ensure proper upkeep
- Clean, wash, and paint machinery when needed for proper maintenance
- Maintain detailed records of each machine or vehicle, included any maintenance, inspection, or repair services performed
- Provide upfront estimates for repairs and maintenance
- Budget for current and projected repair projects and calculates costs for parts and labour
- Lower costs by taking advantage of warranty and insurance coverage when available
- Ensure projects are completed effectively and on time
- Maintain a large collection of tools and devices for repairing and testing vehicles and other machinery
- Keep necessary supplies in stock and places orders to replenish inventory

**Skills required for this job (core competencies):**

Communication	Resilience	Organisation	Teamwork
Problem Solving	Initiative	Creativity	Digital literacy

**Sectors in which Mechanics would normally work:** You could work at a garage. Your working environment may be noisy and dirty. You may need to wear safety clothing and use safety equipment. With experience, you could become a senior technician, workshop supervisor or garage manager.

You could work as a breakdown engineer or MOT tester, or specialise in a particular area like motorsport engineering. You could also work on electric and hybrid cars or specialise in tuning and modifying vehicles for higher performance.

**Salary:** Mechanics are typically paid a starting wage of £18 000, this increases with experience, skilled Mechanics can expect to earn approximately £35 000 per year.



**Working hours:** Working hours are usually around 38 - 45 hours per week. You may need to work some evenings and weekends.

### Qualifications to become a Mechanic:

You could take a college course before applying for work as a trainee with a garage.

Relevant courses include: Level 2 Diploma in Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair and Level 3 Diploma in Vehicle Technology

Entry requirements - You'll usually need: 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A\* to D), or equivalent, for a level 2 course 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A\* to C), or equivalent, for a level 3 course

You can complete an intermediate or advanced apprenticeship as a motor vehicle service and maintenance technician.

This will usually take 2 to 3 years. You'll do on-the-job training and spend time at a college or training provider.

### Essential skills you need to show: You'll need to have:

- the ability to use, repair and maintain machines and tools
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- problem-solving skills
- the ability to use your initiative
- persistence and determination
- the ability to work well with others
- knowledge of engineering science and technology
- customer service skills
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently

**This job in the future:** The workforce is projected to decline by -8.6%, losing 16 900 jobs; in the same period, 50.3% of the workforce is likely to retire, creating 99 200 job opportunities.

[www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com)  
[www.successatschool.org](http://www.successatschool.org)  
[www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk)  
[www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors)  
[www.ucas.com/careers-advice](http://www.ucas.com/careers-advice)  
[www.kudos/casaid.co.uk/#/](http://www.kudos/casaid.co.uk/#/) (you all have a log on for this service)  
[www.careersbox.co.uk](http://www.careersbox.co.uk) (careers videos)

Helpful sites for careers information  
GAT careers links

<http://airhead.io/public/launchpads/XqbuOMJgb0OfqvMPCykcZA>



**Kudos**



**prospects**  
Inspiring People. Developing Potential



**UCAS**



**careersbox**  
CAREERS FILMS ON THE WEB