



Career of the Week

Mechanic

What is a Mechanic?

Auto mechanics perform just about every and any task on a wide range of auto vehicles. They carry out maintenance, repairs, perform safety checks, and more. The role can involve working on any size auto vehicle and can offer some challenging tasks as more modern vehicles become more complicated. If you are interested pursuing this career keep reading and learn how to become a mechanic.

The key duties of an auto mechanic include:

- Inspecting and testing auto vehicles for faults
- Repairing and carrying out maintenance on auto vehicles
- Diagnosing problems and preparing quotes for customers
- Filing paperwork and recording vehicles repairs and details

Mechanic Work Environment

Most mechanics are employed full-time at an auto repair shop. The work schedule is typical during the week and on the weekends. Service technicians spend most of the day standing, though the workspace is generally open and ventilated. Mechanics often work with computers to diagnose issues in cars though they also work with greasy parts and tools. Because they work with heavy car parts and tools, mechanics are at risk for cuts, sprains, and bruises while on the job. A small handful of mechanics are self-employed.

Mechanic Salaries in the United Kingdom

Salary estimated from 3,930 employees, users, and past and present job advertisements on Indeed in the past 36 months. Last updated: 06 October 2020

Location

United Kingdom

Average salary

£29,612 per year

Salary Distribution



Desirable Skills of an Auto Mechanic

Being an auto mechanic is both a job for life and a job some people do for a few years. There are some desirable skills that help people take to being a mechanic easier than others. Like all jobs, it's not for everyone. Here are some skills that help people be better auto mechanics and find more success in the role.

Good Stamina and Strength

There is a lot of heavy lifting and long hours working underneath, or leaning over vehicles. This can take its toll on the body and is one reason that older people find it more difficult to be an auto mechanic. Being in good physical shape makes the role a lot easier.

Maintaining Continual Development

As mentioned earlier, there are continual advancements and developments in the auto vehicle industry. If you want to stay competitive with other garages and keep your knowledge up-to-date there is the need for continual development.

Good Team Skills

Auto shops only operate well by having a team of people. From the staff working on the counter securing customers, the staff managing stocks, and the mechanics. Having good team skills is vital to the whole garage operating smoothly, and effectively.

Passion for Auto Vehicles

Like with any job, if you have a passion for your work you are going to enjoy the role a lot more, and will be much better for it. A lot of young men growing up love vehicles, and it's been a natural progression to work in the industry for many.

Reliable and Able to Work to Strict Deadlines

Customers vehicles are often their lifeline or even their business. Auto mechanics are often expected to turn around some repairs very quickly, and missing a deadline can damage the relationship with the customer. Being reliable and working to deadlines is a very key part of the role.