

27th January 2020 – Career of the Week

Electrician

Electrical fitter, electrical technician, installation electrician.

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

National Careers Service

www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk



Entry Requirements

You can get into this job through a college course, an apprenticeship or applying directly.

College

You can take a Level 2 and 3 Diploma in Electrical Installation, which may help you to find a trainee position with a company.

Entry requirements - You'll usually need:

- 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A* to D) for a level 2 course
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) for a level 3 course

Apprenticeship

You can do an installation electrician advanced apprenticeship.

Entry requirements - You'll usually need:

- 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), including English and maths, for an advanced apprenticeship

Direct application

You may be able to move into electrical installation work if you've got experience and relevant qualifications from a related industry, for example building services or electrical engineering.

Registration

- you'll need a [Construction Skills Certification Scheme \(CSCS\)](#) card or equivalent to train and work on a construction site

Further information

You can find out more about becoming an electrician from [Electrical Careers](#) and [Go Construct](#).

What you'll do

Your work will depend on the type of electrician you are:

- 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

Skills Required – You'll need:

- knowledge of building and construction
- the ability to use, repair and maintain machines and tools
- maths knowledge for understanding technical plans
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- the ability to use your initiative
- the ability to work well with your hands and use equipment safely
- physical skills like movement, coordination, dexterity and grace
- customer service skills for working with colleagues and clients
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

Related Careers

- Electrical engineering technician
- Electrical engineer
- Building services engineer
- Lift engineer

Salary

These figures are a guide.

Starter: £ 18, 000

Experienced: £ 42, 000

Working Hours

Typical hours – 30 to 40 hours per week.

You could work on call as customers demand.

Working Environment

You could work on a construction site, at a client's business, at a client's home or on the streets.

Your working environment may be cramped, at height and outdoors in all weathers.

Career paths 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.

Labour Market Information

In **North West England** there are currently 28292 Electricians in employment.

www.icould.com