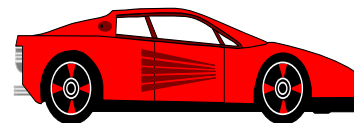


Working in Mechanics

- Car Mechanics is one of the most popular areas of work chosen by 16-18 year olds
- Jobs in car mechanics are limited, so it may be worth looking into other related areas
- The technology in all motor vehicles has advanced considerably in recent years. There is an increasing need for technicians particularly in dealerships. Employers may ask for at least 4 GCSE grades A-C, or equivalent, when recruiting trainee technicians.



Some career ideas

Car mechanic

HGV mechanic

Construction plant mechanic

Vehicle body repairer

Tyre and exhaust fitter

Agricultural service engineer

Motor cycle mechanic

For more information use your careers library or www.connexions-direct.com/jobs4u

Looking for Jobs

- Read Connexions job vacancy posters displayed in school/college or log on to our website www.thesource.me.uk
- Look at the Jobcentre Plus website www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk
- Ring or write to employers you would like to work for
- Ask friends, family & neighbours to help you in your job search
- Read job pages in the local papers especially each Wednesday
- Use the Internet – some employers post careers information or vacancies on their website.
- Be sure a job really interests you, if it does, apply immediately
- Register with Connexions when you leave education
- Check Yellow Pages or www.yell.com for places you could approach under the following headings:

Garage services, Car body repairs, Car dealers, Agricultural engineers, Plant & machinery repairs, Exhaust system dealers, MOT testing etc

REMEMBER - to keep on looking for your own employer

Training

All jobs involve some sort of training:

- (a) "On the job" training that helps you to do the work on a day to day basis, or
- (b) Training that also leads to a recognised qualification such as an NVQ (National Vocational Qualification)

An Apprenticeship is a job with training at NVQ level 2 or 3.

Apprenticeships include improving your "Key Skills" such as communication, numeracy & IT, which are relevant for all jobs and technical certificates related to the type of work.

* Some training providers offer a Programme led Pathway. This means that you would start by working towards the Key Skills and Technical Certificates at the training centre to prepare you for moving on to an apprenticeship.

NVQs are different to GCSEs, because they are very practical and relate to the job you are learning to do. They can be gained in different ways, such as one day per week at college, in blocks of training, once per month in a training centre, etc.

Training Centres

NVQs in vehicle repair will include the following:

- Understanding basic hand tools
- The layout and operation of vehicles
- Electrical systems
- Identifying parts due for replacement and removing and refitting parts
- Stock control
- Dealing with customers
- General housekeeping
- Health and safety

Don't forget ...

...you could also consider full-time courses in mechanics/service engineering at local colleges, for further information please refer to the following sources of information -

Find out more by looking in:

- College prospectuses
- Suffolk 14-19 Learning Opportunities - www.future4me.org.uk

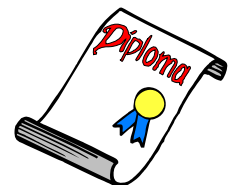
Time Off for Study or Training

If you are 16 or 17 years of age you have a right to paid time off work for study or training if:

- You are employed
- You did not obtain 5 GCSEs at grades A* - C or the equivalent (e.g. an Intermediate GNVQ)

The Government has given this right to young workers so that they can:

- Be given another chance to obtain recognised qualifications
- Be more valuable to employers



If you are not receiving training in your job then contact Connexions and ask to speak to someone about your "Right to Time Off for Study and Training"

Drop in at our Connexions centres - they're open to the public

43 St Andrews Street South
Bury St Edmunds
IP33 3PH

Tel. 01284 768493

37 - 43 Fore Street
Ipswich
IP4 1JL

Tel. 01473 341800

Opportunity House
London Road North
Lowestoft
NR32 1BH

Tel. 01502 508680

The Cangle Junction
Haverhill
CB9 9PF

Tel. 01440 765050
(Open Mon, Tues, Wed
10-12am; 1 -3 pm)

Freephone: 0800 085 4448

Web: www.thesource.me.uk

Email: enquiries@connexionssuffolk.org.uk

The Youth & Connexions Service is part of Suffolk County Council