



Broadcast engineer

Broadcast engineers install, operate, maintain and repair the equipment used to make and broadcast radio and television programmes. They make sure that programmes are broadcast to the highest quality and on time.

What does the job involve?

- maintaining, testing and aligning the equipment used in radio broadcasting, such as control and switching systems and audio frequency equipment
- responsible for the audio and video equipment used in television for studio recordings, network and outside broadcasts or webcasts
- installing new equipment and facilities or networks
- researching and developing new broadcasting techniques
- analysing and fixing technical faults
- maintaining the permanent cable and radio links which operate between studios and transmitters
- responsible for transmitting stations and the equipment based in them, such as receivers and test equipment
- advising on studio design, improving services and buying equipment
- maintain records and technical documentation.
- You could work at a TV studio, at a film studio or in a workshop.

Routes and choices while at school:

You will need to try to get at least five GCSEs at grades 4 or C or better, or equivalent qualifications. These should include English, maths and science. Other relevant subjects include design technology, IT and computing.



Skills You'll need:

- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- knowledge of computer operating systems, hardware and software
- the ability to work well with others
- broadcasting and telecommunications knowledge
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- to be flexible and open to change
- knowledge of maths
- knowledge of media production and communication
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently



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How to get into this role:

You can get into this job through:

- a university course
- a college course
- an apprenticeship
- working towards this role
- volunteering
- a training scheme

College

You may be able to get into broadcast engineering after doing a [T Level in Media, Broadcast and Production](#)

Entry requirements

- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths for a T level

Apprenticeship

You could get started by doing an apprenticeship such as a:

- broadcast and media systems technical operator advanced apprenticeship
- broadcast and media systems engineer degree apprenticeship

Further information

Career tips

You can find out more about working in broadcasting from:

[BBC careers](#) [4 Careers](#)

[ITV Careers](#) [Sky Careers](#)

You can get information on working in media and creative careers from [ScreenSkills](#) and [Discover Creative Careers](#).



Career path and progression

With experience, you could specialise in working with specific types of equipment, such as digital, cable or satellite.

Many engineers work freelance so networking and keeping up to date with changes in the industry is really important to win clients.

Rates of Pay

As of September 2023, the starting salary on the BBC Engineering Degree Apprenticeship is £19,500.

The starting salary for broadcast engineers is around £30,000 a year, rising to around £40,000 to £50,000 with experience.