



## Careers information sheet

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### Engineering

Engineering has a considerable impact on every part of modern life, and includes many different career areas that can take you all over the world. Not all engineering jobs involve heavy or dirty work – there is an increasing emphasis on design and electronics. Engineering skills are in great demand.

Engineers work in several other sectors such as IT, Construction and Manufacturing.

Engineering careers generally follow a similar pattern, whatever the job area.

There are four different levels of engineering job:

- Operative (Level 1/2)
- Craftsperson (Level 3)
- Engineering Technician (Level 3/4)
- Incorporated/Chartered Engineer (Level 6 and above)

(Source: jobs4u)

You can get your qualifications by taking vocational courses or studying while in employment as well as by the more traditional full time education route. The important thing is to choose a route that suits you.

#### **Additional sources of information**

The Sector Skills Council for Engineering is SEMTA  
[http:// www.semta.org.uk](http://www.semta.org.uk)

SummitSkills is the Sector Skills Council for Building Services Engineering.  
<http://www.summitskills.org.uk>

Scenta careers has general information on science and engineering.  
<http://www.scenta.co.uk/careers/general.cfm>

The Engineering Council UK sets and maintains recognised standards of professional competence.  
[http:// www.engc.org.uk](http://www.engc.org.uk)

The Engineering Construction Industry Training Board focuses on improving the skills of craft and technician personnel and supervisors, as well office based staff such as designers and project managers.  
[http:// www.ecitb.org.uk](http://www.ecitb.org.uk)

The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) accredits programmes for Chartered Engineer, Incorporated Engineer or Engineering Technician.  
<http://www.theiet.org>

The WISE Campaign (Women Into Science, Engineering and Construction) promotes science, engineering and construction as career options for women  
<http://www.wisecampaign.org.uk>

Other useful engineering contacts include:

- Royal Academy of Engineering  
<http://www.raeng.org.uk/>
- Engineering Development Trust  
<http://www.etrust.org.uk/>
- Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine  
[http://www.ipem.ac.uk/ipem\\_public/](http://www.ipem.ac.uk/ipem_public/)
- EAL (engineering qualifications)  
<http://www.eal.org.uk>
- EEF (the employers' organisation)  
<http://www.eef.org.uk>

### **What else should I be doing?**

There's a lot you can do to help your career in Engineering outside formal learning:

- find part time work/holiday jobs/work experience involving engineering
- plan for a working Gap Year with Year in Industry [www.yini.org.uk](http://www.yini.org.uk)
- take part in Aimhigher activities, such as summer schools and taster days
- take part in engineering challenges and competitions
- improve your teamwork and personal skills – especially communication and presentation
- develop your problem solving and thinking skills
- visit industrial heritage museums and attractions
- take part in National Science Week activities
- develop your IT skills
- learn a foreign language if you want to work abroad
- join a Young Engineers Club if there is one in your area  
[www.youngeng.org](http://www.youngeng.org)
- contact your local Setpoint for resources [www.setnet.org.uk](http://www.setnet.org.uk)
- become a Student Member of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (undergraduates)