

Looking For A Career: Why The Skilled Trades Should Be Considered



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Working in a skilled trade--such as plumbing, electrical, and mechanics--used to be considered lesser than careers in medicine or law, but over the years the benefits of working a trade have become more and more evident. Not only will there likely always be jobs available for people who are well-trained in a trade, the pay is also usually very good.

From an employer's point of view, hiring a skilled tradesperson means having an employee who enjoys doing their job and takes satisfaction in putting their skills to use, which in turn will likely mean a happier employee in general. It also means they have less time to grow bored or dissatisfied, because many trades provide plenty of work.

If you've ever wondered what the benefits are of working in a skilled trade, read on and find out why so many people are choosing to learn a trade.

Pay less for school

Training for a skilled trade is usually two years or less, which means you won't be paying as much as those who choose a 4-year college. Not only that, but since you'll be graduating sooner, you'll likely be able to jump right into a good-paying job when school is over, something many graduates don't have the luxury of today. Read on [here](#) for a list of high-paying trades jobs.

You'll have excellent training

As an employer, I have a long list of things I look for in a potential candidate for a job. Not only do they need to demonstrate people-skills and conduct themselves in a professional manner by being on time and following through on their promises, they also need to have the right kind of training. In many cases, training in the right field wins out over more years of experience because employers want to know that the job is in the most capable hands possible. For more on what employers are looking for, read this guide from [HomeAdvisor.com](#).

Your job will stay here

It's a simple fact that many jobs these days are being outsourced because it's more cost-effective for companies, but with skilled trades, that's not an option. That's good news for you, because it means you'll always have a job here. Not only that, but you're likely to find a job in your field pretty much anywhere you go in the U.S., so making a move won't be dependent on your employment.

You won't have to look far

Trade jobs are plentiful in most cities, so when it's time to look for employment you won't have to wait long or look too far. Of course, it does depend on the economy and what's going on in a [particular region](#) at any given time--for instance, North Dakota found itself in a [petroleum boom](#) in 2014, which created plenty of jobs for carpenters, plumbers, and electricians to plan and build infrastructures. Not to mention those areas impacted by Harvey or Irma. They will have work for skilled trades workers for years to come.

You can try something new

Many trades give you the opportunity to travel and try new things with every job, and some even allow you to become your own boss if that's the road you want to take. A few years ago, nearly half of all construction managers in the U.S. were [self-employed](#).

The idea that skilled trade jobs aren't "as good" as professions such as law or medicine is outdated and, frankly, many people are realizing that they can take a different path than the one their family members took to create their own road. If you're thinking about learning a trade, consider the benefits and possibilities. It might just be the best decision you've ever made.