

CAREER FACT SHEET

Sheetmetal Trades Workers

Snapshot

Sheetmetal Trades Workers mark out, shape, form and join sheetmetal and other materials to make products and components.

How many are employed in this occupation?	4,100
What are the average weekly earnings for full time workers?	\$1,229
How does unemployment compare with other occupations?	Average
What are the job prospects for this occupation?	Medium
What will be the likely future employment growth for the next five years?	Very Strong Growth

Main employing industries

Manufacturing; Construction

Tasks

This occupation may include associated occupations with varying tasks.

- studying blueprints, drawings and specifications to determine job, material and equipment requirements
- selecting metal stock, such as stainless steel, galvanised iron, mild steel, aluminium and copper, and checking sizes, gauges and other dimensions of metal stock against specifications
- marking out metal stock with reference points and lines, using templates, gauges and other measuring instruments
- cutting metal stock along guidelines using hand and power shears, guillotines and drills
- shaping and forming cut metal stock into products using folding and bending machines, rollers, presses and hammers
- fitting and assembling components into final products by welding, riveting, soldering, brazing and otherwise joining
- finishing products by polishing, filing, sanding and cleaning assembled products
- may repair damaged sheetmetal products and components
- may specialise in fabrication, or on-site assembly and installation, of sheetmetal products
- may produce aircraft sheet metal components requiring advanced drawing and calculating skills
- may specialise in decorative copperwork

INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

Manufacturing

If you're a hands on sort of person who likes getting stuck into tasks involving the use of tools and machinery to create new items, or you like to work on projects that bring technical concept drawings to life, then a career in the Manufacturing industry could be right up your alley. Careers in Manufacturing are available in a variety of industries such as: aerospace, furnishing, laboratory operations, metal fitting, engineering and boating, process manufacturing, mineral products, plastics, rubber, recreational vehicles and textiles, clothing and footwear. Structural Steel and Welding Trades workers, and Metal Fitters and Machinists are the trades most in demand in Manufacturing at present. There are thousands of Manufacturing businesses in Australia, employing almost one million people. New developments in sustainable Manufacturing aim to produce goods in an environmentally friendly and sustainable way while at the same time maintaining, if not improving productivity. This makes it a very interesting time to join this sector.



Manufacturing

Possible job pathways

- Glaziers
- Graphic Pre-press Trades Workers
- Industrial Spraypainters
- Metal Fitters and Machinists
- Precision Metal Trades Workers
- Sheetmetal Trades Workers
- Structural Steel and Welding Trades Workers
- Wood Machinists and Other Wood Trades Workers
- Chemical, Gas, Petroleum & Power Plant Operators
- Electrical Engineering Draftspersons, Technicians
- Electricians
- Electronics Engineers
- Metal Casting, Forging & Finishing Trades
- Aircraft Maintenance Engineers
- Engineering Production Systems Workers
- Engineers (Chemical and Material)
- Industrial, Mechanical and Production Engineers
- Mechanical Engineering Draftspersons, Technicians
- Food and Drink Factory Workers
- Production Managers
- Printers
- Printing Assistants and Table Workers
- Signwriters
- Jewellers
- Product Assemblers

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