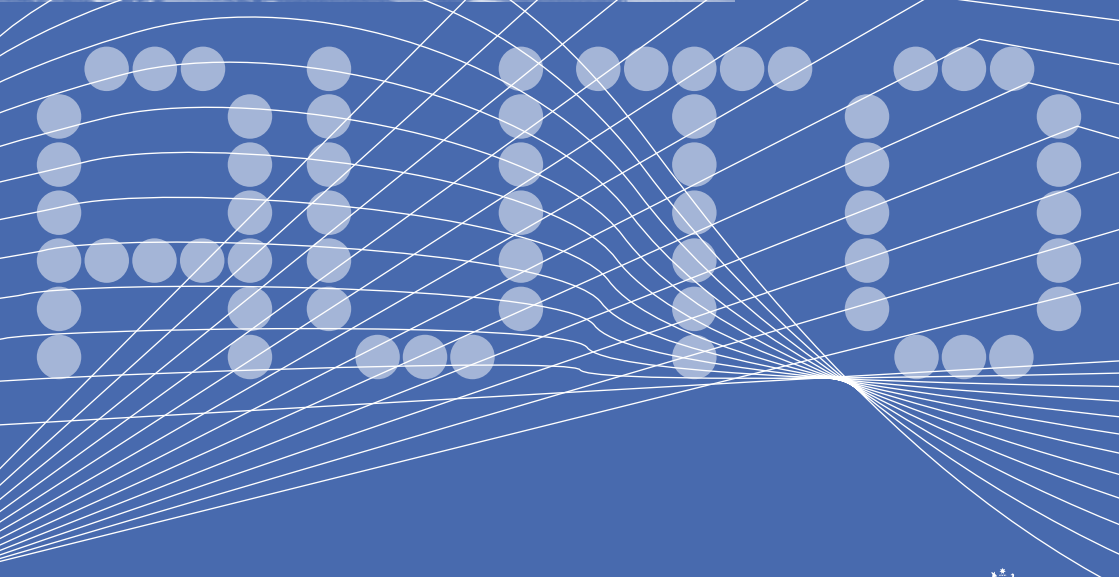


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The job of the Automotive Mechanical Technician has certainly changed in the last decade with the introduction of computer technology making it very diverse, challenging and exciting. The automotive industry has become more sophisticated and high-tech, and so too have the skills of the Automotive Technician.

Automotive Mechanical Technician

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VACC



Australian Government
Department of Education,
Science and Training
National Skills Shortages Strategy

Where do Automotive Technicians work?

- Mechanical repairers
- Vehicle dealerships
- Transport firms
- Private firms and fleets of vehicles
- Public authorities such as defence, energy, public work, etc
- For themselves

What sort of things do Automotive Mechanical Technicians do?

- Discuss problems with car drivers or vehicle operators to discover faults, listen to engines, fit and operate special test and diagnostic equipment and test drive vehicles
- Repair or replace worn and faulty parts by removing and dismantling assemblies
- Reassemble, test, clean and adjust repaired or replaced parts and assemblies, use various tools and equipment to make sure they are working properly and put them back into vehicle
- Diagnose, repair and replace engine management/fuel injection components
- Inspect vehicles and issue roadworthiness certificates or list the work required before a certificate can be issued.

What kind of Automotive Technician can I be?

Light Vehicle– service and repair the mechanical parts of passenger motor vehicles such as the engine, transmission and the suspension systems, service and repair of turbo charging systems.

Motorcycle– repair of charging and starting systems, electrical and ignition systems and motor cycle frames including alignment.

Automatic Transmission

Specialist– work on light/heavy vehicles, motor cycles, plant and outdoor power equipment carrying out diagnostic procedures, servicing, repair and overhaul of automatic transmissions and final drive assemblies.

Brake Specialist– diagnose, overhaul, repair/replace and test the parts of disc, drum or power brake systems.

Diesel Specialist– carry out diagnostic procedures, service, repair and overhaul engines and associated components, service and repair of turbo charging systems, diesel fuel systems, emission control systems and air compressors/components.

Driveline Specialist– perform diagnostic procedures, servicing, repair and overhaul of clutch assemblies, servicing and repair of manual/automatic transmissions and final drive assemblies and drivelines.

Engine Reconditioning specialist– restore and recondition the machined surfaces of vehicle components and engines.

Heavy Vehicle– overhaul, service and repair the mechanical parts of road transport vehicles heavy vehicle mobile equipment plant/earth moving/agricultural equipment.

Tyre Fitter and Repairer– working on passenger, light and heavy commercial vehicles carrying out inspection to determine preferred repair action, repair of tyres, selection tyres and rims for particular vehicles and balancing tyres and wheels.

Trade Facts

What sort of training do you need?

To become an Automotive Technician usually requires the completion of an Australian Apprenticeship in Automotive Mechanical Technology.

The length of the training can vary and may involve on-the-job and off-the-job components. The off-the-job training is provided through Registered Training Organisations to Certificate III level.

You may be able to start training for this occupation while still at school.

You would enjoy being a Automotive Technician if

- You enjoy being prepared and have an ability to prioritise
- Have good communication skills
- Have an ability to think on your feet
- Enjoy problem solving
- Have a medium level of math's and english skills
- Enjoy using computers.

How do I get a job as an Automotive Technician?

- Join a Group Training Company
- Respond to advertisements in the paper or internet
- Refer to the 'Automotive Careers on the Move' flyer for more information and contact details in your state.

