

Machining Technician

Level: 3

Duration: 45 months

Machining Technicians create high-precision metal and plastic components using advanced tools like CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machines and manual lathes.



Apprenticeship overview

Core skills, knowledge and behaviours you will learn

- Programming and operating CNC machinery
- The selecting and setting up of cutting tools
- How to use CAD (Computer-Aided Design) software
- Quality inspection and tolerance checking
- Metallurgy and the properties of different materials

Where you might work

- Precision engineering firms
- Medical device manufacturing
- Formula 1 and high-performance racing teams
- Defence and aerospace contractors

Typical job roles

- CNC Machinist
- Precision Engineer
- Toolmaker
- Manual Machinist

Good to know

Work is precise - you will often work with tolerances smaller than a human hair

It's a mix of computer programming and hands-on metalwork

"Measure twice, cut once" is the ultimate rule of the machine shop

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