ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN

ALSO KNOWN AS: TECHNICAL OFFICER | ENGINEERING ASSOCIATE | TECHNICAL ASSISTANT | DRAFTSPERSON

PIONEER THE NEXT GENERATION OF PRODUCTS AS AN ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN IN MANUFACTURING.

Your expertise in translating innovative concepts into precise technical drawings will be the catalyst for bringing cutting-edge designs to life. In this role, you'll be at the forefront of new product development, using advanced CAD technology to create the blueprints that transform visionary ideas into tangible, market-ready solutions. Your work will directly influence the evolution of products across industries, positioning you as a key player in driving technological advancement and shaping the future of manufacturing.

KEY SKILLS

Skills which may benefit anyone considering a job as a engineering technician include:

- CAD software proficiency
- Design
- Measurement and mathematics
- Problem solving
- Spatial visualisation

VALUES & ATTRIBUTES

Values and attributes of anyone considering a job as a engineering technician include:

- Creativity
- Precision
- Collaborative
- Persistence
- Attention to detail
- Artistic – "Creator"

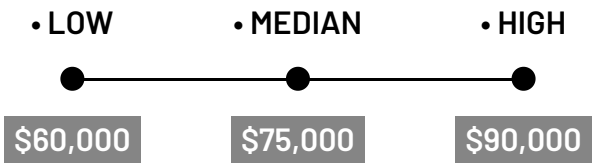
CAREER PROGRESSION

In this role, you may have the opportunity to progress to other positions. Career progression opportunities include:

- Pattern Maker (Engineering)
- Technical Manager
- Technical Manager
- Engineering Draftsperson

SALARY EXPECTATION

The expected salary for an engineering technician can vary across different areas of manufacturing and may vary as you become more experienced.



RELATED INDUSTRIES

▸ General Manufacturing and Engineering ▸ Renewables ▸ Transport Equipment and Machinery

RECOMMENDED SCHOOL SUBJECTS

- Design
- Engineering
- Engineering Skills

CORE SCHOOL SUBJECTS

- General Mathematics
- Essential English
- Industrial Graphics Skills
- Design and Technologies (7-10)

JOB OVERVIEW

Engineering Technicians translate concepts into 'down to the millimetre' models, showcasing their ability to interpret, design, and draw, and being the essential step between design and final manufacture.

Their role involves translating complex engineering concepts and design ideas into precise, detailed technical drawings that guide the entire manufacturing process. These drawings serve as the foundation for production, ensuring that every component is accurately represented and meets industry standards.

An Engineering Technician works closely with engineers, designers, and production teams, acting as a vital communication hub. Their technical drawings not only convey design intent but also provide critical information on materials, dimensions, and assembly processes. The accuracy and clarity of their work directly impacts the efficiency of production, the quality of the final product, and ultimately, the success of manufacturing projects.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Your role may include duties as follows:

1. Create detailed 2D and 3D models using advanced Computer-Aided Design software for various manufacturing projects.
2. Develop precise technical drawings from engineering sketches, specifications, and design concepts.
3. Ensure all drawings adhere to industry and national standards, performing thorough cross-checks before production.
4. Continuously update and refine drawings based on project requirements, changes, and stakeholder feedback.
5. Work closely with engineers, designers, and production teams to optimise designs for manufacturability and efficiency.

HOW TO BECOME A ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN

While formal qualifications are not always mandatory to start in this field, many employers prefer candidates with relevant training or experience. Employers are often looking for job seekers to take on a formal apprenticeship. Here are steps you can take to become an Engineering Technician:

1. Complete high school with a focus on subjects like mathematics and engineering.
2. Consider undertaking a Certificate II in Engineering Pathways (MEM20422) for an introduction to manufacturing and engineering.
3. Research training and apprenticeships, including Certificate III in Engineering – Technical (MEM30522).
4. Look for opportunities promoted by employers online.
5. Even if there are no jobs advertised but you have an interest in working with the employer, send through a letter and your resume expressing your interest to work in the industry

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

A traineeship with a manufacturer is the best pathway to gain employment as a draftsperson. You can undertake the following qualification as a traineeship:

- Certificate III in Engineering – Technical (MEM30522)

As a trainee you will combine work with formal training, allowing you to gain practical skills and knowledge in a specific industry while earning a salary.

Duration: Traineeships typically last between up to 24 months, depending on the specific program and whether you are working full-time or part-time.

Work and Study Combination: As a trainee you will work either full-time or part-time while receiving formal training from a Registered Training Organisation (RTO).

Eligibility: Generally, traineeships do not require formal qualifications to enter, making them accessible to a wide range of individuals, including if you are a school leaver or someone looking to change careers.

Completion: On completion you will receive a nationally recognised qualification, showcasing your skill and experience.

Skills, qualifications, accreditations and licences

In this role you may choose to pursue other training or certifications, licences and tickets. Qualifications and skills may be required to progress to supervisor or team leader positions.

Qualifications that may help you progress in this role include:

- Certificate IV in Engineering Drafting (MEM40422)
- MEM50222 Diploma of Engineering – Technical

UNIVERSITY & HIGHER EDUCATION

While a university degree is not typically required for Engineering Technicians, higher education can open doors to management roles or specialised positions within the industry. Relevant degree programs might include:

- Bachelor of Design (Industrial Design)
- Bachelor of Engineering