

# AUTOMOTIVE APPRENTICESHIPS

## WHAT IS AN AUTOMOTIVE APPRENTICESHIP?

An automotive apprenticeship allows you to earn a salary while gaining recognised qualifications and real industry experience. You are employed by a company, complete structured training alongside your job, and build skills that employers value.

Apprenticeships are available across far more roles than many people realise. They broadly fall into three areas:

BUSINESS & CUSTOMER-FOCUSED	TECHNICAL AND HANDS-ON	DIGITAL, CREATIVE & PROFESSIONAL
<p><b>If you enjoy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Working with people</li><li>• Organisation</li><li>• Communication</li><li>• Teamwork</li></ul> <p><b>Examples:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Customer Service Practitioner/Specialist</li><li>• Business Administrator</li><li>• Supply Chain Practitioner</li><li>• Assistant Accountant</li><li>• HR Support</li></ul> <p><b>Future roles:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Team Leader</li><li>• Operations or Office Manager</li><li>• HR Advisor or Manager</li><li>• Service Manager</li><li>• Account Manager</li></ul>	<p><b>If you enjoy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Practical work</li><li>• Fixing things</li><li>• Problem-solving</li><li>• Working with tools</li></ul> <p><b>Examples:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Autocare Technician</li><li>• Motor Vehicle Service &amp; Maintenance Technician</li><li>• Vehicle Damage Panel, Paint or MET Technician</li><li>• Accident Repair Technician (multi-skilled)</li><li>• Heavy Vehicle Technician</li><li>• Automotive Glazing Technician</li></ul> <p><b>Future roles:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Senior or Master Technician</li><li>• Vehicle Damage Assessor</li><li>• Workshop Controller</li></ul>	<p><b>If you enjoy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creativity</li><li>• Technology</li><li>• Digital tools</li><li>• Planning</li><li>• Leadership</li></ul> <p><b>Examples:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Content Creator</li><li>• Digital Marketer</li><li>• IT Support or Data Technician</li><li>• Associate Project Manager</li><li>• Team Leader/Supervisor</li></ul> <p><b>Future roles:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Marketing or Content Manager</li><li>• Digital Specialist</li><li>• Project Manager</li><li>• Data Analyst</li><li>• Senior Leader</li></ul>

## APPRENTICESHIP QUALIFICATION LEVELS

Apprenticeships are offered at different levels depending on the role and your experience:

- Level 2: Entry-level (GCSE equivalent)
- Level 3: Advanced (A-level equivalent)
- Level 4–5: Higher apprenticeships
- Level 6–7: Degree and postgraduate-level apprenticeships

Progression is built into the system, meaning you can start at one level and continue developing your career over time, including moving into degree-level study while working.

## WHAT YOUR WEEK MIGHT LOOK LIKE

Most apprentices:

- Work 30–40 hours per week
- Spend around 80% of time in the job and 20% in learning
- Learn through a mix of practical work, assignments, and assessments

You are treated as an employee, gaining confidence, routine, and responsibility early on.

## WHAT TRAINING LOOKS LIKE

Training delivery varies, so it's important to check what suits you:

- Local college
- Independent training provider
- Employer-led academy

Training may include:

- Day release (e.g.: one day per week at college)
- Block release (staying at a training centre for set periods)
- Remote or blended learning

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Requirements vary by role and employer, but most apprenticeships require:

- Age 16+ with no upper age limit
- Right to work in the UK
- Residency requirements
- Maths and English (GCSEs or Functional Skills completed during the apprenticeship)

Employers also look for motivation, reliability, curiosity, and willingness to learn.

## HOW APPRENTICES ARE SELECTED

Apprenticeships can be competitive. Selection may include:

- Online application or CV
- Interview or assessment day
- Demonstrating interest in the role and industry

Applying early and to multiple opportunities increases your chances.

## MONEY MATTERS

- You are paid a salary from day one
- No tuition fees, training is funded
- Pay usually increases as skills develop
- You may need to budget for travel, tools, or equipment (often supported by employers)

## SUPPORT & WELLBEING

As an apprentice, you're supported by:

- Your employer and workplace mentor
- A training provider or assessor
- Pastoral and learning support throughout the programme

If something isn't working, there are systems in place to help.

## LIFE AFTER AN APPRENTICESHIP

Completing an apprenticeship can lead to:

- Permanent employment
- Promotion and leadership roles
- Degree-level apprenticeships
- Further study or career changes later on

Apprenticeships open doors rather than close them.

## IS THIS ROUTE RIGHT FOR YOU?

Apprenticeships suit people who:

- Learn best by doing
- Want to earn while learning
- Are ready for the responsibility of work

They may feel challenging if you prefer classroom-only learning or more flexible schedules — and that's okay. There's no rush or wrong decision. The right choice is the one that works for you right now.