Investment and Maintenance Planner

OVERVIEW
Investment and maintenance planners are highly organized, detail-oriented, communicative professionals who plan and schedule inspections, maintenance, and repairs of complex and hi-tech parts and machines at manufacturing facilities, including plants that produce equipment that harnesses solar energy. They preserve repair and maintenance records and data for parts and equipment used in manufacturing facilities. They determine when equipment is in need of repair, replacement, or upgrade; and they purchase and store tools and supplies needed for equipment maintenance. They schedule maintenance activities to minimize disruption to production processes and maximize plant efficiency. Investment and maintenance planners work closely with maintenance technicians. They conduct trainings and communicate maintenance and repair schedules. In all of their work, investment and maintenance planners are required to follow rules and equipment maintenance schedules established by both corporate and government regulations and standards. They also must keep up to date with the latest trends and innovations in production equipment.

EVALUATE YOUR INTEREST
☐ I enjoy maintaining and repairing things, especially items with engines and motors.

☐ I can use verbal and written language to explain to others how to complete complicated, multi-step tasks.

☐ I am a problem-solver. I have a knack for asking smart questions that help others identify problems and issues. I work with others to formulate solutions to problems.

☐ I am highly organized and can keep track of several projects at once, each with many moving parts. I am a stickler about maintaining records that are 100% accurate.

☐ I am a strong planner. I am able to plan multiple events or tasks at once without causing disruptions and time conflicts.
### CAREER CONNECTION

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<th>How does this career affect me?</th>
<th>What are some other similar careers?</th>
<th>How does this career affect the world?</th>
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| All of the manufactured goods you enjoy every day—including foods you eat, devices you communicate with, and vehicles that drive you around—arrive at your doorstep as a result of highly complex production and distribution processes that begin at factories. Widely available goods would not be affordable to most consumers unless they were produced at a minimum of costs in dollars, time, and labor. Investment and maintenance planners make sure parts and equipment in production facilities are maintained and repaired with minimal disruption so business firms can offer them at affordable prices to their customers, including you. | **Cost Estimators** gather and analyze information to determine the resources required to produce goods and services. Resources include time, money, materials, and human capital.  
**Industrial Engineers** design systems for integrating labor, machines, resources, and energy to manufacture goods and provide services.  
**Management Analysts** figure out ways to improve a business’ overall organizational efficiency.  
**Construction Managers** plan, budget, organize, and oversee construction projects.  
**Aircraft Maintenance Technicians** maintain and perform repairs on airplanes and helicopters.  
**Automotive and Heavy Equipment Service Technicians and Mechanics** inspect, maintain, and repair automobiles and trucks as well as heavy equipment such as tractors, cranes, and military vehicles. | The world is an increasingly interconnected place. The goods and services that people utilize on a daily basis, from automobiles to digital devices to the foods they eat, are often the product of resources that come from many different locations all over the globe. As a result of globalization, processes for combining resources to produce manufactured goods to consumers is becoming more and more complex. Investment and maintenance planners are responsible for designing machine and parts maintenance systems to maximize efficiency. Efficient production means a higher quality of life as goods and services that were once unattainable become affordable to the average person. |
TAKE ACTION

☐ Consult manuals and online resources to learn more about the workings of mechanized items in your home, such as appliances, vehicles, and yard equipment. When possible, assist with repair work on these items, learning to use a variety of tools and your hands to replace, adjust, and manipulate parts. As you repair items, track your steps and think about how you would explain repair processes to others.

☐ Plan maintenance schedules for machines and appliances in your home, such as vehicles and yard equipment. As you plan the schedules, determine and help acquire items that are needed for each maintenance task.

☐ Help to plan a family celebration, such as a holiday dinner, a vacation, or a family reunion. In doing so, ask yourself these questions: What smaller tasks need to be completed to ensure the celebration comes together successfully? In what order should these tasks be completed? Which family members are best for performing these tasks? Does anyone else need to be brought in to help? What goods and services need to be acquired? After the celebration, reflect on how the planning process might be improved next time.

☐ Visit a local factory, production facility, or even your school machine shop. Conduct an interview with the professional tasked with overseeing the facility about how it was designed to maximize efficiency and safety and minimize issues such as poor traffic flow or high energy consumption. Focus on the plant processes and schedules for repairing and maintaining machines and equipment. Think about steps you might take to improve the facility design or maintenance processes.

☐ Join an organization or take a class at school that assembles or repairs mechanized items. Examples might include a small engine repair course, a robotics team, or a mechanical sculpture class.