



CAREER PROFILE

CAREER OUTLOOK ²

Job growth for **derrickhands** is expected to grow at an average rate. However, with an increased demand for natural gas, it is expected that this projection will increase.

Projected job growth:
7% (2018–2028)

Average salary range:
\$67,000/year

Derrickhand

Derrickhands have a physically demanding job in all weather conditions and don't mind some sweat or dirt. They can work at high heights manipulating huge and heavy equipment. They have mechanical knowledge and value teamwork to help safely extract natural gas and oil.

WHAT IS A DERRICKHAND? ¹

As a member of a natural gas or oil drilling team who usually reports directly to the driller, the **derrickhand** orients pipes as they are inserted into wells. As they progress in their job, they will be involved with training new team members. When not drilling, they may also help others, for instance working with the mud loggers making sure the mixture of mud in the well is correct. The job is very physical and being safety conscious is critical as they work at heights nearly eighty-five feet up in the air. While wearing a harness and personal safety equipment, the derrickhand leans off the platform to grab the pipes as they are raised and guide them to where they are stored until they are needed again.

IS DERRICKHAND A GOOD CAREER FOR ME?

Derrickhands are:

- Active.
- Team players.
- Hard workers.
- Mechanically minded.

¹ <https://www.ziprecruiter.com/Career/Drilling-Rig-Derrickhand/What-Is-How-to-Become>

² <https://www.energyjobshop.com/articles/what-do-derrickhands-do/>



CAREER PROFILE

Derrickhand

AM I...

- Hard working?
- Strong?
- Perseverant?

DO I...

- Enjoy being active outdoors?
- Enjoy machines and learning how things work?
- Follow directions well?

HOW DO I BECOME A DERRICKHAND?

You will need to:

- take classes in mechanics.
- develop your communication and collaboration skills.
- study mechanics and technology after high school.
- get internship or apprenticeship experience working with mud loggers.