



STUDENT ACTIVATION



Diesel Mechanic

Preventative maintenance is the name of the game for a **diesel mechanic**. By carefully going through a checklist, they can prevent many issues from happening on multimillion-dollar machinery. But things happen and parts break. This is when diesel mechanics listen carefully to the machine user and use cutting-edge technology to figure out what is wrong and how to repair it so that large vehicles and machines, such as construction equipment or drilling equipment used in the natural gas and oil industry, run safely and efficiently.

DIESEL MECHANIC ¹

Diesel mechanics work to inspect, repair, and overhaul any vehicle with a diesel engine, such as trucks, buses, bulldozers, and cranes, as well as some forms of machinery like certain drilling rigs. Diesel mechanics use a checklist to assure all major parts of the machine are examined. They consult with the machine users to determine what repairs are needed. They make major and minor engine repairs and update exhaust systems to comply with pollution regulations. All this allows for multimillion-dollar equipment to run safely and effectively.

IS DIESEL MECHANIC A GOOD CAREER FOR ME?

Me	Diesel Mechanic
I enjoy figuring out the solutions to difficult problems.	Diesel mechanics are complex problem solvers.
I enjoy working with machines and fixing things.	Diesel mechanics provide preventative care and repairs for diesel machines and engines.
I am organized, and I am good at following directions.	Diesel mechanics utilize checklists and other regulatory documents to outline their work.

¹ <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/installation-maintenance-and-repair/diesel-service-technicians-and-mechanics.htm#tab-2>

Diesel Mechanic

STUDENT ACTIVATION (CONTINUED)



How does this career help me?	How does this career help the world?
<p>If you or a family member have ever ridden in a bus or ambulance, used a moving truck, or eaten food from a grocery store, you have benefited from the work of a diesel mechanic. These professionals inspect diesel vehicles to prevent breakdowns and perform repairs when necessary. The work they do each day allows engines to run smoothly and arrive safely.</p>	<p>Trucks, tractors, and trains are necessary to provide the world with life-sustaining food, goods, and services. If something goes wrong, it is the diesel mechanic that is there to diagnose and repair the problem. These lifelong learners stay on top of ever-changing technology so that people around the world are provided with all they need.</p>

What are some similar careers?
<p>Aircraft mechanics repair aircrafts and complete scheduled maintenance.</p> <p>Heavy vehicle and mobile equipment service technicians work closely with machinery used in construction, farming, and other industries.</p> <p>Truck drivers earns a living driving a large diesel truck that delivers food or goods locally, regionally, or nationally.</p>

Here are ways to practice the skills to be a successful **diesel mechanic**:

- Take an old bike apart and put it back together. Notice how it is put together and figure out the function of each part.
- Get active. Diesel mechanics work with heavy parts and often need to be in awkward positions to fix parts. The better in shape you are, the more effective you will be at the job.
- Find a power tool mentor. Is a neighbor building a shed? Does your aunt love a good air compressor? Hang out with a trusted adult who can teach you the respect and skill it takes to work safely with power tools.

