



CAREER PROFILE

CAREER OUTLOOK²

Stress engineers are often considered in the same category as mechanical engineers. All careers in these fields are expected to grow at an average rate and be in consistent demand.

Projected job growth:
7% (2020–2030)

Average salary range:
\$90,160/year

Stress Engineer

Various parts of an airplane—the wings, ribs, fasteners, fittings, etc.—encounter large amounts of stress and pressure during takeoff, flight, and landing. To maintain safety, an aircraft and all its parts must be able to carry the load of flight. **Stress engineers** inspect and ensure that aircraft are in good working order.

WHAT IS A STRESS ENGINEER?¹

The main role of **stress engineers** is to determine the stresses and strains that each part of an aircraft will endure and then ensure that each maintains stability when subjected to the forces and heavy loads of flight. Usually they work with the “big” parts of an aircraft, like the wings and body, but they can be called in to analyze even the smallest aspect of commercial flight, such as the plastic silverware! Stress engineers are also responsible for checking part assembly and complying with industry safety regulations.

IS STRESS ENGINEER A GOOD CAREER FOR ME?

Stress engineers are:

- interested in aviation
- technologically savvy
- lifelong learners
- attentive to details
- excellent communicators
- creative problem-solvers
- team players
- spatially aware

¹ <https://bit.ly/3oirEdt>

² <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/architecture-and-engineering/mechanical-engineers.htm>



Stress Engineer

AM I...

- Good at math?
- Creative?
- A good communicator?

DO I...

- Visualize situations in my head?
- Like working in teams?
- Like to understand how things work?

HOW DO I BECOME A STRESS ENGINEER?

You will need to:

- take classes in technology and math
- develop your communication and teamwork skills
- study engineering and aviation in college
- get job experience working with manufacturing, stress testing, or aviation