



CAREER PROFILE

Maintenance Technician

JOB OUTLOOK²

Overall employment of maintenance technicians is projected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations over the next decade. The continuing trend towards automation will increase demand for maintenance workers who can maintain and repair complex, hi-tech machines and equipment.

SALARY RANGE¹

\$47,520 – \$55,560

WHO ARE THEY?^{1,2}

Maintenance technicians are highly observant, detail-oriented, dexterous professionals who inspect, maintain, and repair complex and hi-tech equipment used to help produce, process, and refine oil and gas. They draw accurate conclusions about information provided by equipment performance, data, and records to determine whether equipment is in need of repair or replacement. They complete technical trainings, interpret complex repair manuals, and adjust parts to precise specifications. Maintenance technicians are proficient with a variety of power, precision, and hand tools used in maintenance operations. They are able to coordinate finger and hand movements to manipulate and adjust parts, carry and move heavy equipment, and maintain balance while climbing on and around machines and equipment. They are willing to work in a variety of inside and outside work environments and wear protective equipment, such as hardhats and safety glasses. They may be on call and work weekend or overtime shifts.

WHAT DO THEY DO?^{1,2}

Maintenance technicians perform scheduled maintenance and repairs to ensure that machines and equipment at oil and gas production facilities are in safe, operating condition. They interpret data and use diagnostic tools to conduct tests of instruments and parts of equipment such as pumps, valves, and compressors. They determine when equipment is in need of repair, replacement, or upgrade. Maintenance technicians are also able to disassemble and reassemble equipment to address issues. They read complex manuals to learn repair procedures and utilize a variety of hand and power tools to replace defective parts and address problems. Finally, maintenance technicians conduct inspections to ensure completed work is up to standard and keep records of repair work. In all of their work, maintenance technicians are required to follow rules and equipment



CAREER PROFILE

Maintenance Technician (Continued)

EDUCATION/ TRAINING

- Maintenance technicians need a high school diploma.
- Some complete a 2-year associate's degree program in industrial maintenance. This would include training courses in areas such as welding, mathematics, and hydraulics.
- Most maintenance technicians receive at least one year of on-the-job training.

maintenance schedules established by both corporate and government regulations and standards. They also must keep up-to-date on the latest trends and innovations in oil and gas production equipment.

HOW DO I BECOME ONE?¹

Maintenance technicians typically have a high school diploma and at least a year of on-the-job training on how to set up, clean, lubricate, and start equipment. Their training may also include instruction on how to operate tools, weld, program computers, and read blueprints. Some technicians complete 2-year associate's programs in industrial maintenance.

Maintenance technicians need manual dexterity for working with small parts; mechanical skills for disassembling and reassembling complicated machines and equipment; and troubleshooting skills for diagnosing and addressing issues with equipment.

¹ "Maintenance Technician/Technical Service Maintenance Coordinator." Video from the American Petroleum Institute.

² "Occupational Outlook Handbook." U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/installation-maintenance-and-repair/industrial-machinery-mechanics-and-maintenance-workers-and-millwrights.htm>.