

What is a...

SHEET METAL WORKER?

Sheet Metal Workers lay out, fabricate, assemble, weld, install, and service a variety of projects such as HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning), industrial, kitchen and hospital equipment and architectural work.

SHEET METAL WORKERS

Workers in this field fabricate and install a wide variety of construction related items using sheet metal or plastic materials. They install heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems (HVAC), that control the temperature, humidity and total air quality in residential, commercial, industrial and other buildings by precisely following blueprints, design specifications and manufacturers' instructions. A Sheet Metal Worker requires highly specialized and up-to-date skills to accomplish the various tasks involved in the trade.

In sheet metal, technicians work with:

- HVAC: Commercial, industrial fabrication and install
- Industrial: Blowpipe, dust collection, gravity feed conveyors
- Institutional: Kitchen sinks & range hoods; Hospital washing & laboratory equipment
- Architectural: Flashings, panels and cladding



TRAINING TO BECOME A SHEET METAL WORKER

APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING



Applicants must write an evaluation exam; the majority of applicants serve a pre-apprenticeship of up to 1600 hours. Registered apprentices are indentured to the local training board. A Sheet Metal Apprenticeship Agreement is for a period of about four years.

Indentured apprentices attend four levels of 6-week technical training sessions at the Sheet Metal Workers' Training Centre or at Camosun College on Vancouver Island and complete 6,400 hours in the industry.

RECOMMENDED HIGH SCHOOL PREREQUISITES

- English 10
- Math 11 (Principles)
- High School diploma or GED recommended

SKILLS & ABILITIES

For a successful career in Sheet Metal, you should have a mechanical aptitude and a curiosity about how things work.

You must be courteous and tactful, and have good communication and listening skills for dealing with customers' needs.

Good math, computer and problem-solving skills are important assets for working in this profession.

It is also necessary to be physically fit as lifting and climbing ladders and working at heights is sometimes required.

Sheet Metal Industry Training Board
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