

GREEN JOB FACT SHEET

MACHINE OPERATOR

Machine operators are responsible for assisting in all activities associated with safely running industry equipment, including setup, operation, and cleanup. They also may be responsible for equipment troubleshooting, maintenance, and quality control.

THE BIG PICTURE

Machine operators are responsible for:

- Operating industry equipment safely and efficiently.
- Understanding the process for set up, operation, and clean up for a variety of equipment in the corrugated packaging industry.
- Conducting maintenance and troubleshooting techniques to ensure machinery runs properly.

IS THIS CAREER RIGHT FOR YOU?

DO YOU HAVE A STRONG MECHANICAL APTITUDE? ARE YOU ABLE TO MULTITASK AND REMAIN FLEXIBLE IN THE WORKPLACE? DO YOU PRIORITIZE SAFETY? ARE YOU RELIABLE?

- Machine operators are able to use critical thinking skills to identify problems and implement solutions in a timely manner.
- Following safety rules and guidelines is important for machine operators.
- Machine operators can read and interpret technical documents and are comfortable with computers and technology.

SALARY

The U.S. average starting annual salary is \$47,622 or \$22.90/hour and the U.S. median annual salary is \$57,533 or \$27.66/hour.

FUTURE HIRING DEMAND

Overall employment of material moving machine operators is projected to grow 3% from 2023 to 2033, about as fast as the average for all occupations.

MOVING FORWARD



Aspiring machine operators should:

- Earn a high school diploma or GED.
- Consider a machine operator position if you're not certain which field of industry you'd like to specialize in. This is a great job that can offer growth and educational opportunities, tuition reimbursement, on-the-job training, etc.
- Continue your education by obtaining relevant certifications like the Certified Machinist or OSHA 10-Hour Safety Training.

CONSIDER A #CAREERINCORRUGATED

In 2022, the corrugated industry manufactured 401 billion square feet of materials used to make boxes, displays, and other corrugated packaging. This equated to 40 billion packages that safely shipped and protected food, clothing, and durable goods for delivery to millions of global customers.

For more about green jobs, visit
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