

Explore the Electrical Trade

This quick guide will give you a glimpse at what electricians actually do day to day. This profession is always expanding to new areas and is an essential occupation, meaning job security into the future.



What Electricians Do:

Electricians install, maintain, and repair electrical power, communications, lighting, and control systems in homes, businesses, and factories.

- Read blueprints or technical diagrams
- Install and maintain wiring, control, and lighting systems
- Inspect electrical components, such as transformers and circuit breakers
- Identify electrical problems using a variety of testing devices
- Repair or replace wiring, equipment, or fixtures using hand tools and power tools
- Follow state and local building regulations based on the National Electrical Code
- **Direct and train workers** to install, maintain, or repair electrical wiring or equipment

Almost every building has an electrical power, communications, lighting, and control system that is installed during construction and maintained after that. These systems power the lights, appliances, and equipment that make people's lives and jobs easier and more comfortable.

Installing electrical systems in newly constructed buildings is often less complicated than maintaining equipment in existing buildings because electrical wiring is more easily accessible during construction. Maintaining equipment and systems involves identifying problems and repairing broken equipment that is sometimes difficult to reach. Maintenance work may include fixing or replacing parts, light fixtures, control systems, motors, and other types of electrical equipment.

Electricians read blueprints, which include technical diagrams of electrical systems that show the location of circuits, outlets, and other equipments. They use different types of hand tools and power tools, such as conduit bender, to run and protect wiring.

Many electricians work alone, but sometimes they collaborate with others. For example, experienced electricians may work with building engineers and architect to help design electrical systems for new construction. Electricians employee by large companies are likely to work as part of a crew; they may direct helpers and apprentices to complete jobs.

Learn more at the U.S. Bureau of Statistics Website: bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/electricians.htm (visited June 2024)

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The demand for electricians is double the average demand for all other jobs.



IEC Student Loan Debt

\$67,810

Average Journeyman Electrician Salary

~73,500

Amount of **openings for electricians projected each year**, on average, over the decade.

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Work Schedules:

Almost all electricians work full time. Work schedules may include evenings and weekends. Overtime is common.

Self-employed electricians often work in residential construction and may be able to set their own schedule.



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