Panelbeaters repair damage to metal, fibreglass and plastic body work on vehicles, and form replacement vehicle panels.

**Job title examples**

- Panelbeater/Collision Repairer
- Autobody Repairer
- Vehicle Body Builder

**Other jobs in this field of work**

**What panelbeaters do**

- remove damaged panels and parts, and remove upholstery and accessories to gain access
- remove dents by hammering panels
- straighten damaged vehicles and parts using mechanical and hydraulic equipment
- replace badly damaged sections with new or second-hand panels
- fill depressions with plastic filler, and file, grind and sand repaired surfaces
- cut and join replacement sections using welding equipment
- fit repaired or replacement panels on vehicles and refit body hardware such as door locks and trims
- may assist vehicle body builders in constructing and restoring custom-designed, vintage and other specialty vehicles
- may spray-paint vehicles

**Main employing industries**

- Other Services – Automotive Repair and Maintenance

**Qualifications**

The following government subsidised qualification is available in NSW:

**Certificate III in Automotive Body Repair Technology** available as an apprenticeship or qualification

**Apprenticeships and traineeships:** Find out how to get an [apprenticeship or traineeship](#).
Course fees: You may be eligible for government subsidised training under Smart and Skilled. Go to the Course Finder to find training in your area, estimate your fee and find a training provider.

### Job prospects and pay

- There are around 4,342 panelbeaters working in NSW.
- Over the next four years, employment in this occupation is expected to decline in NSW.
- Employers report current state-wide panelbeater shortages in NSW.

**Average weekly full time earnings (before tax):**
- Panelbeater: $1,216
- All occupations: $1,200

### Related jobs

- Vehicle Body Builder and Trimmer
- Vehicle Painter

To find out more regarding these related jobs, visit the **Job Guides Homepage**.

### Information sources

Occupations: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 1220.0
Skills shortages: Department of Employment, Skill Shortage List NSW 2015-16
Job prospects: Centre of Policy Studies (CoPS), Victoria University, Employment Forecast Data for NSW 2015/16 to 2022/23