

Printer

Printers set up and operate letterpress, lithographic, flexographic, gravure, newspaper, instant, digital and offset printing presses.

Job title examples



- Printing Machinist
- Small Offset Printer
- Instant Printer Operator

Other jobs in this field of work

What printers do



- set, adjust and monitor substrate-feed mechanisms, delivery mechanisms, inking systems and other printing machine functions
- mix ink and solvents to standard, and regulate paper and ink supply during print runs
- monitor, evaluate and determine press operations manually and by computer to check print quality standards against proofs and detect malfunctions
- produce a variety of printed products using relief, lithographic, flexographic and gravure printing presses, and in-line finishing systems
- prepare plates, blankets and impression cylinders on small offset lithographic printing presses
- load paper into feeding mechanisms
- monitor machine operations and quality of printing
- undertake maintenance, adjustment, repair and cleaning of machines
- produce and manage digital print images, and transfer and output images
- may set up and operate paper and bookbinding guillotines

Main employing industries



- Manufacturing
- Information media and telecommunications

Qualifications



The following government subsidised qualifications are available in NSW:

Certificate III in Printing available as an apprenticeship or qualification

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 4,569 printers working in NSW.
- Over the next four years, employment in this occupation is expected to grow in NSW.

Average weekly full time earnings (before tax):

- Printers: \$952
- All occupations: \$1,200

Related jobs



- Print finisher and screen printer
- Graphic pre-press trades worker

To find out more about other jobs, visit the [Job Guides Homepage](#).

Information sources

Occupations: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 1220.0

Employment: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, 6291.0.55.003

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

Earnings: Department of Employment, joboutlook.gov.au, based on ABS Characteristics of Employment Survey, August 2014