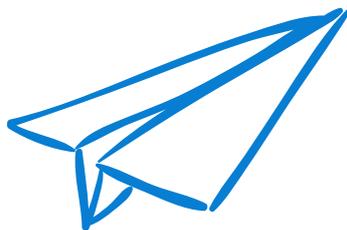


Resource Pack

2016

In association with:



AVIATION AFFECTS OUR LIVES ON A DAILY BASIS. TRANSPORTING GOODS AND PASSENGERS BY AIR IS QUICK, EFFICIENT AND AFFORDABLE. PLANES KEEP PEOPLE, PLACES AND PRODUCTS CONNECTED.

In the UK, aviation is all about **big numbers**. The sector provides around one million jobs. It contributes around £50 billion to the **economy**, generating over £8 billion in taxes for the **government**. That helps pay for **schools**, **hospitals** and other **essential services**.

Pilots have always been well respected, but the aviation industry is not just about **flying planes**. There are many essential roles, from **air traffic controllers** to maintenance technicians, **navigators** to flight attendants and **ground staff**.

Working in aviation means an exciting and fulfilling career, **great travel** options and above **average salaries**. And the technology never stands still. Today's dreams are tomorrow's reality in an **ever-changing industry**.





WHAT AVIATION JOBS CAN I DO?

There are plenty of technical roles associated with flying, so a good mix of engineering, science and maths will serve you well. But there's so much more, with communication and logistics skills also vital to keeping planes airborne. That applies for commercial civilian airlines, and the military.



AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLER

Imagine juggling hectic air traffic jams! A cool head is essential, as is being able to communicate with pilots, air crew and airport managers. At a commercial runway or even on board an aircraft carrier – the ATC keeps those birds in the sky.



PILOT

Whether you fly civilian or military planes, you will be in charge of a multi-million pound machine. You will get people from A to B, safely. Calm and decisive, pilots lead by example and thrive in demanding situations. This is much more than a glamour role!



AIRCRAFT CONTROLLER

On the ground there's a need for quick-thinking, organised aircraft controllers. Air crew pass on flight data, and the correct actions are required. Planes need to be maintained, moved to hangars, made ready for flight and scheduled to the correct runway.

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ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN

Maintaining and servicing the fleet of aircraft is essential to ensure the safety of passengers and crew. Technicians coordinate scheduled maintenance and inspections, before and after flights. From airframe integrity, engine performance and fuel system efficiency, to the radar, communications and even weapons systems on military aircraft.



AIRCRAFT LOADMASTER

Like overloading your supermarket trolley with food, there are limits to what an aeroplane or helicopter can safely take on board. The loadmaster calculates the weight and balance of the cargo, and also the seating arrangements for passengers. Safe take-off and landing depend on it.

This is only a small selection of jobs. Like anything in life, with a little enthusiasm, dedication and ambition a career in aviation can really take you places.



YOUR ROUTE INTO AVIATION

The aviation industry needs people with skills and qualifications, but whatever courses you have taken there are always opportunities to continue your studies after you begin work.



16 - SCHOOL LEAVER

Straight from school you might consider one of the UK aerospace companies. They provide varied apprenticeships in manufacturing and maintenance. The many airports around the country also offer the chance to pursue technical roles, plus working in the support services that keep people moving.

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UNIVERSITY TECHNICAL COLLEGES

Between the ages of 14-18, if you enjoy technical subjects, you can specialise early. The new UTCs let you combine studies with hands-on work experience. This means working with local and national employers.



Check out

<http://www.utcolleges.org/>



for more details about this option.



APPRENTICESHIPS

For those who are more practical, enjoy solving problems and have good technical skills, an apprenticeship is a sensible path to follow. It is now one of the best foundations for later life. You will still need good GCSEs, in particular maths and sciences, but you continue learning while you train. In fact, the Technical Certificates awarded are recognised by industry. Oh, and you also get paid during an apprenticeship!

One example is The Fleet Air Arm, the flying section of the Royal Navy. As an Air Engineering Technician, you get a fantastic modern apprenticeship, performing essential aircraft inspections - often out at sea. Helicopters and fixed wing aircraft depend upon skilled engineering technicians to remain operational. You gain National Vocational Qualifications as you progress.

The Royal Navy also has a super programme called Lifelong Learning. Apprentices gain hands-on experience and continue developing and learning new skills throughout their career. Wherever you are, the easily-accessed online Defence

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18- "A" LEVEL STUDENT

Studying "A" levels at college will always increase your options. Study Maths, Physics and Business Studies to give you the best chances of success if you are serious about the Aviation industry. You could then work as an Air Traffic Controller, in one of many airport logistics positions, or even Air Cabin Crew if extensive travel excites you.

There is also a raft of exciting hi-tech roles to consider, such as Aerospace Technician or Aircraft Engineer. You could even train as a pilot. Most of the commercial airlines recruit potential pilots straight from college. Again, you should concentrate on Maths and Physics at "A" level.



VOCATIONAL COURSES

If you'd rather follow a more practical route, vocational courses at college focus on specific employment skills. Completing schemes that lead to Diplomas in Aircraft Maintenance/Engineering, or an NVQ in Aviation Operations, will enable you to follow other academic courses later.



21 - UNIVERSITY GRADUATE AND BEYOND

A degree gives you incredible flexibility. Universities around the country now offer BA/ BEng courses in Aviation Technology, Aircraft Engineering and Aviation Management. They are often combined with Pilot studies.

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The Royal Navy is also a great starting point for graduates wanting to train as a pilot. Imagine the adrenaline rush as you drop a front-line unit into battle. That's what a military pilot does each day in combat zones. Entry to the Armed Forces requires a flying aptitude test, and you also need to be physically fit, confident and possess great leadership qualities. But what an experience! Pilot training in the military is fully accredited with the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), so there are endless opportunities to continue flying if you leave the services in later life.

For more information about the Royal Navy opportunities, check out

<http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/careers/graduates>

TIPS FOR GETTING A JOB

Here are some top tips for getting started from the experts at the Royal Navy.

A career in aviation was once very mysterious. Gentleman with wispy moustaches and plum accents seemed to dominate the sky, at least in black and white films. These days there are few barriers, you just need to find the right departure point that suits you. Before that, there are many ways to improve your chances of success.



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TIPS FOR GETTING A JOB

- **Attend Air shows and open days**

Everyone loves an air show. Go and enjoy the day, speak to industry professionals, make contacts and ask questions. If you're lucky, there will be a flight simulator available for the public to try. Grab that opportunity.

- **Join the Air Cadets**

Cubs, Scouts and football teams are all superb team-building foundations for later life. As a teenager you can join the Air Cadets and get a real insight into the aviation profession. It will look impressive on your CV.

- **Use Social Media**

The Internet is at your fingertips. Make use of it with daily updates from people already working within the aviation industry. On Twitter why not follow official events with the UK Civil Aviation Authority @UK_CAA, or the Fleet Air Arm Museum @FleetAirArmMus so you understand the historical side of flying as well.

- **Get Work Experience**

Okay, I doubt that anyone will let you jump into the hot seat and take the controls on your first day. However, from airport concourses and travel agents, to private aircraft hangers and model plane clubs, there are always ways to gain valuable work experience. Most importantly, it highlights your desire to follow that career path.



More useful resources

2016

Need more help with your careers choices? You can find a wealth of help and opportunities at the following places :



ROYAL NAVY



THEBIGCHOICE.COM

Find quality advice and opportunities in apprenticeships, part-time jobs and training on this youth careers portal.



SCHOOL LEAVERS GUIDE

This interactive app guide brings together expert advice, guidance on career steps and positions from top employers via your tablet or smartphone.



NATIONAL CAREERS SERVICE

The official place for careers advice and information in the UK.



NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SERVICE

Everything you need on apprenticeships and the best vacancies on offer.