



Tree Surgeon



Tree surgeon apprenticeships

What does a tree surgeon do?

Tree surgeons are responsible for the care, maintenance and management of trees. This could include planting, felling (cutting down trees), hazard assessment and maintenance of trees in parks, woodlands, country estates, private gardens and more.

Tree surgeons may also be known as arborists, tree climbers or fellers.

You will work outdoors and often at height.



Which apprenticeships are there as a tree surgeon?

- Intermediate: Arborist (level 2)



What could your typical daily tasks include?

- Identifying hazards posed by trees and pests, diseases and defects
- Felling and removing trees, and grinding stumps
- Planting trees and vegetation
- Climbing trees to remove branches
- Advising customers on how to care for their trees
- Using machinery such as brushwood chippers



How long will the apprenticeship take to complete?

A typical apprenticeship will take around 2 years to complete.



How much could you earn?

As a qualified tree surgeon, you can earn on average between £20,000 - £38,000 a year depending on your experience and location.



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Useful skills you will develop as a tree surgeon

- A broad understanding of health & safety
- Communication skills and team working
- Ability to deal with complex tasks
- Ability to work at height
- Ability to use initiative
- Practical skills in using a variety of equipment

Qualifications you might need

- Entry requirements will be determined by individual employers. Some employers may require certain GCSEs, but the majority of employers will be looking for someone with a willingness to learn and a genuine interest in becoming a tree surgeon.

Qualifications you will gain

- The apprenticeship qualification.
- If GCSEs in maths and English have not already been achieved, then you will work towards Level 1 by the end of your apprenticeship.
- Emergency First Aid at work qualifications.

Other trades and professions that tree surgeons might interact with:

- Project managers
- Architects
- Landscapers



How could you progress?

By gaining skills and experience as a tree surgeon, you could also have a successful future career as a:

- Team leader/supervisor
- Project manager
- Recreational tree climbing instructor, taking people into treetops as an outdoor activity
- Teacher/trainer
- Business owner – by starting your own business