

## Shoe Repairer

Shoe repairers mend shoes and bags. Some also cut keys, replace watch straps and watch batteries and engrave items such as nameplates and pet tags.

### The Work

You could be:

- replacing or repairing soles and heels using pincers and glue or staples
- using machines to cut keys and engrave items
- using equipment such as sewing machines, finishing machines and staple guns to work on leather items
- mending and possibly dyeing leather goods such as shoes, bags, belts or cases
- keeping records of customers handing in and collecting items
- selling shoe care products, bags and other items
- taking payments from customers
- maintaining equipment and servicing machinery.

### Pay

The figures below are only a guide. Actual pay rates may vary, depending on:

- where you work
- the size of company or organisation you work for
- the demand for the job.

Starting pay is often based on the National Minimum Wage (NMW) or the National Living Wage (NLW).

As of 1 April 2026 the National Minimum Wage is £8.00 an hour for workers under 18, £10.85 an hour for workers aged 18 to 20. The National Living Wage for those aged 21 and over is £12.71 an hour.

### Conditions

- You will work indoors in a large store, shop or small workshop.
- There will be fumes from the glue and adhesives.
- You will probably work daytime hours but might work some weekends.
- You might be able to work part time.
- You might have to wear protective overalls, which the employer will provide.

### Getting In

- You do not always need formal qualifications, but a good basic education is useful.
- You need numeracy skills to handle money.
- You must be able to deal with orders, receipts and invoices.
- You need a good eye for detail.

## What Does It Take

You should be:

- good at working with your hands
- able to pay close attention to detail
- accurate and methodical in your work
- honest and polite
- good with customers
- able to work on your own and as part of a team
- aware of security matters when cutting keys
- able to follow health and safety procedures.

## Training

Training is on the job.

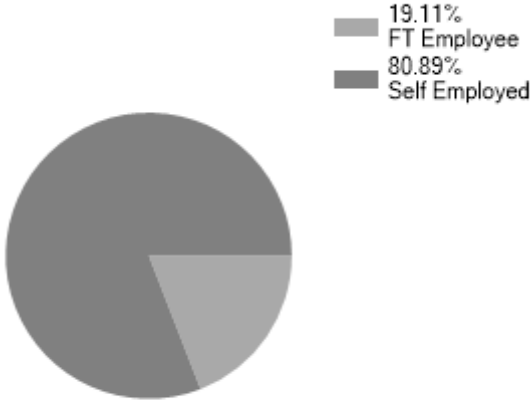
## Getting On

- If you work for a large chain of shoe repairers you might gain promotion to supervisor or to manager.
- Alternatively you might decide to specialise in repairing orthopaedic footwear, or become self-employed.

## Contacts

Statistics

Employment Status UK %

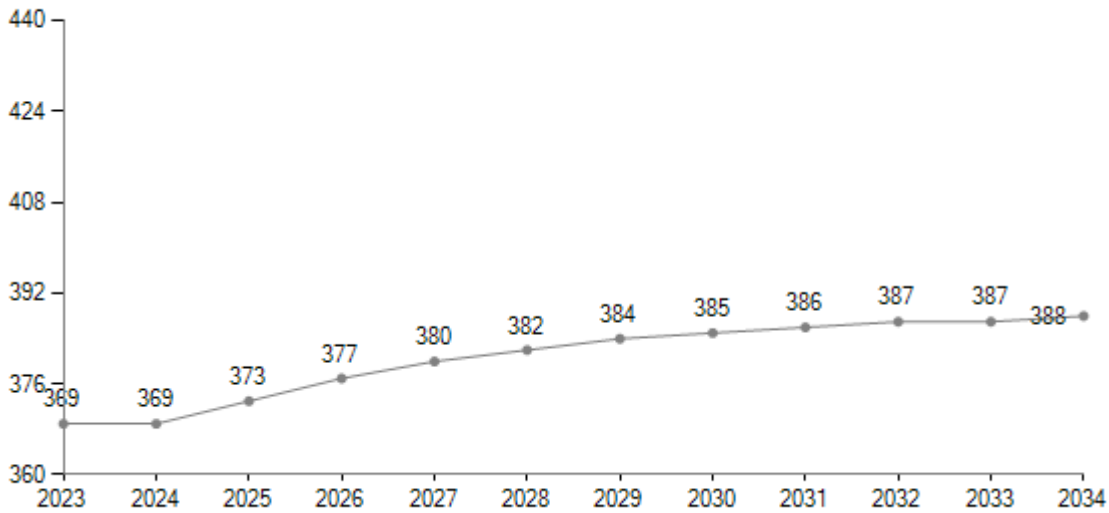


Past Unemployment - Scotland

No Claimant statistics available for Scotland.

LMI data powered by [LMI for All](#)

Predicted Employment in Scotland



LMI data powered by [Lightcast](#)