

Technical Surveyor

A technical surveyor provides support to chartered surveyors and other professionals. They work in a range of branches of surveying including building, general practice, land, minerals, offshore, planning, quantity and rural.

They are also called surveying technicians.

The Work

You could be:

- carrying out surveying duties such as mapping land use, checking building repairs or assessing fire risks
- undertaking site measuring and re-measuring
- using computer-aided design (CAD) software to help plan and design new projects
- estimating the cost of a building project, including budget breakdown and timescales
- writing reports, contracts and tenders
- organising and supervising building site operations
- scheduling and monitoring project workloads
- valuing property, land and machinery
- managing estates and farms.

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 salaries are likely to be from around £20,000, rising to around £28,000 with experience. High earning senior technical surveyors can up to £40,000 a year.

Conditions

Depending on your branch of surveying you may:

- spend much of your time in the office
- travel to building sites and visit clients
- work outside in all weathers and conditions
- wear a hard hat and other safety gear while on site
- have to climb ladders or scaffolding
- have to do some evening or weekend work.

Getting In

- Many applicants usually have an HNC (SCQF Level 7) or HND (SCQF Level 8) in building surveying, built environment with specialisms or quantity surveying. Usual entry requirements are 1 or 2 Highers.
- As a school leaver, you could apply for a job as a trainee technician. Employers would normally look for around 4 subjects at National 5.
- You may be able to enter through a Modern Apprenticeship. You would need some subjects at National 4 or 5, or Highers including English, Maths and a science or technological subject. You can work towards Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs) in one of the branches of surveying.
- You could study the Foundation Apprenticeship in Construction (SCQF Level 4 or 5) in S3-S6, which can help to get into a relevant Modern Apprenticeship.
- You must hold a ConstructionSkills Certification Scheme (CSCS) card or equivalent to work on a building site. You need to pass a health and safety test to qualify for this scheme.

Look for jobs with surveying firms, building contractors, civil engineering companies and property developers, as well as in the public sector with local authorities and the Civil Service.

What Does It Take

You need to have:

- good communication skills
- practical problem solving skills
- a methodical and analytical approach
- an interest in construction and land
- an awareness of health and safety matters
- good IT and maths skills
- the ability to interpret technical drawings.

You need to be able to:

- keep up to date with relevant standards and regulations
- work accurately and pay attention to detail
- work with a wide range of people
- organise projects and workloads
- work to deadlines.

Training

- You might do a SVQ in Construction Contracting Operations: Surveying or Site Technical Support at SCQF Level 6.
- As a trainee technical surveyor, you would train on the job with part time study at a local college towards an HNC qualification in a relevant area of surveying.
- Depending on the industry you work in, you may be able to take courses to keep up to date in specialised software, such as CAD.

Getting On

- Once you gain experience you might move on to a supervisory position such as senior technician.
- You might become self-employed.
- You might progress to the Technical Apprenticeship in Construction at SCQF Level 9 and work towards the SVQ Construction Contracting Operations Management: Quantity Surveying.
- By studying for further qualifications you could eventually become a qualified chartered surveyor. Check the [Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors](https://www.rics.org/) (RICS) website for details.

Contacts

Statistics

Employment Status UK %

100.00%
FT Employee



Past Unemployment - Scotland

No Claimant statistics available for Scotland.

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

Predicted Employment Statistics : Not available this career.