

Assembler - Electronics

Electronics assemblers work as part of a team making electronic components and equipment.

The Work

You could be:

- assembling and fixing microchips on circuit boards
- putting electronic components into products such as hairdryers and food blenders
- working on an assembly line on a specific part of an item
- using hand tools and soldering equipment
- testing finished articles to make sure they meet quality standards
- packing goods for dispatch
- reporting problems and faults to a supervisor.

Pay

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

- where you work
- the size of the 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 2024 the National Minimum Wage is £6.40 an hour for workers under 18, £8.60 an hour for workers aged 18 to 20. The National Living Wage for those aged 21 and over is £11.44 an hour.

The apprentice rate, for those aged under 19 or aged 19 or over and in the first year of their apprenticeship, is £6.40 an hour (1 April 2024).

With experience salaries range from £13.00 to £15.00 per hour. You can get additional earnings by working overtime.

Conditions

- Electronics factories are usually bright, very clean and free of dust to avoid damaging the electronic parts. You may work in sterile conditions.
- It could be noisy due to machinery.
- You will wear overalls, and maybe also a hair covering, gloves, safety glasses and antistatic arm or ankle bands.
- You will either sit or stand, usually repeating the same tasks for long periods.
- You may get regular breaks to avoid eye strain from working with small parts.
- You might have to work shifts including weekends and nights.

- Overtime and part time work may both be available.

Getting In

- You do not always need formal qualifications, but some employers prefer a few subjects at National 4 or 5.
- You will need to be good at working with your hands. You may have to take a practical test to show this.
- Certain colour vision conditions may affect entry to careers in this branch of engineering.
- If you have allergies you may be at risk from certain materials that can irritate skin.

Jobs are advertised through [Find a job website](#) and other recruitment websites.

What Does It Take

You need to be:

- good at working with your hands
- willing to learn new skills and procedures
- aware of strict health and safety rules.

You need to be able to:

- cope with repetitive work
- follow instructions closely
- understand diagrams
- handle small components
- work quickly and accurately under pressure
- concentrate on detailed items
- work well in a team and alone.

Training

- You will normally train on the job through an employer's training scheme.
- You may be able to work towards relevant SVQs such as Performing Engineering Operations at SCQF Levels 4 and 5.

Getting On

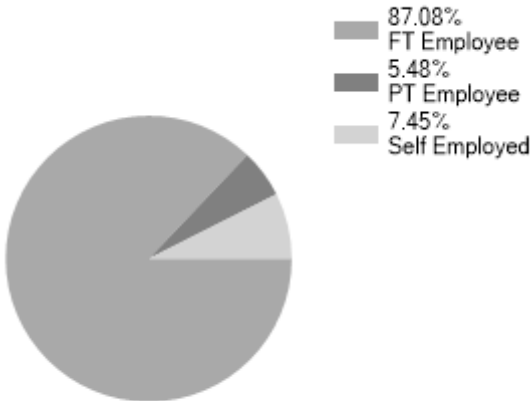
- With suitable experience you may be promoted to a supervisor's post.
- You may be able to move into other jobs such as quality control.

More Information

[Enginuity](#) (formerly SEMTA) is the Sector Skills Council for science, engineering and manufacturing technologies. The website includes a careers section showing progression routes in the industry.

Statistics

Employment Status UK %

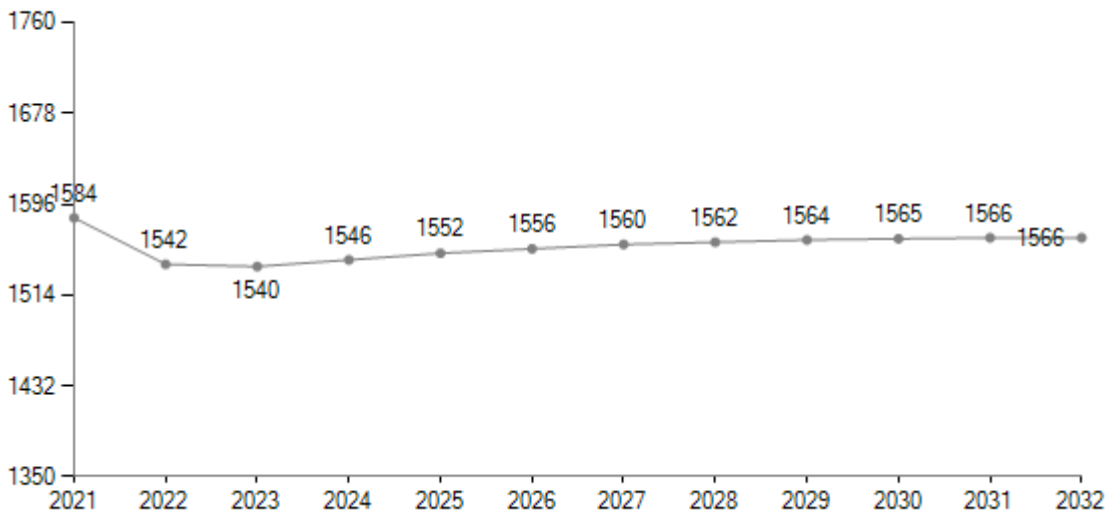


Past Unemployment - Scotland

No Claimant statistics available for Scotland.

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

Predicted Employment in Scotland



LMI data powered by [Lightcast](#)