

What does a Musician do?

Musicians create or perform different types of music, from classical to pop and rock.

How do you become a Musician?

You can get into this job through:

- a university course
- a college course
- applying directly
- specialist courses run by private training organisations

You'll usually need for University Route:

- 2 or 3 A levels including music, or equivalent qualifications
- grade 8 in your main instrument
- to pass an audition
- a degree in a relevant subject for postgraduate study
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You'll usually need for College Route:

- 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A* to D), or equivalent, for a level 2 course
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, for a level 3 course

Average Salary

Variable - average £42,236

The UK average salary is £28,758

Typical Working Week

34 to 36 irregular

You could work: evenings / weekends / bank holidays; away from home

There are 37.5 hours in the average working week

Day-to-Day Tasks

In your day-to-day duties you may:

- compose, learn and rehearse music pieces
- take care of and set up your instrument for performances
- prepare for and attend auditions
- perform in front of a live audience
- take part in recording sessions
- create 'demo' recordings to promote your music
- engage with your audience through social media and website content
- arrange concerts and tours or deal with a manager or agent who does this for you

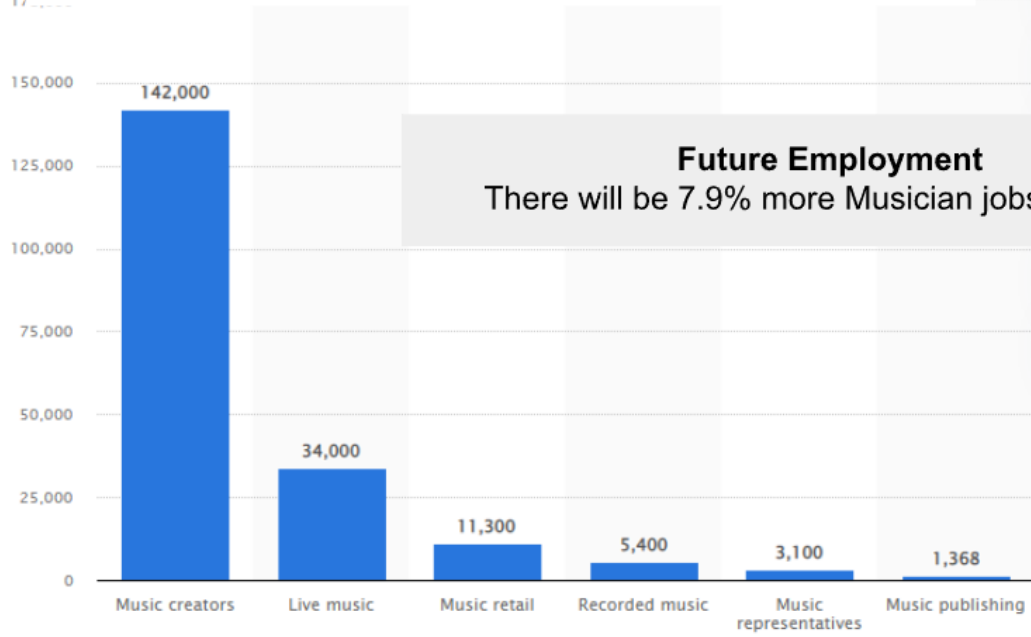
Working environment

- You could work in a theatre, at a music venue or at a recording studio.
- Your working environment may be emotionally demanding.

For more information visit:

- [National Careers Service](#)
- [Prospects](#)
- [Career Pilot](#) - range of roles covered
- [Icould](#) - range of roles covered
- [Careersmart](#)
- [Allaboutcareers](#)
- [Unifrog Careers Library](#)

Employment in the music industry in the United Kingdom



Future Employment
There will be 7.9% more Musician jobs in 2027..

Skills and knowledge

You'll need:

- persistence and determination
- ambition and a desire to succeed
- knowledge of the fine arts
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- active listening skills
- thinking and reasoning skills
- concentration skills
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

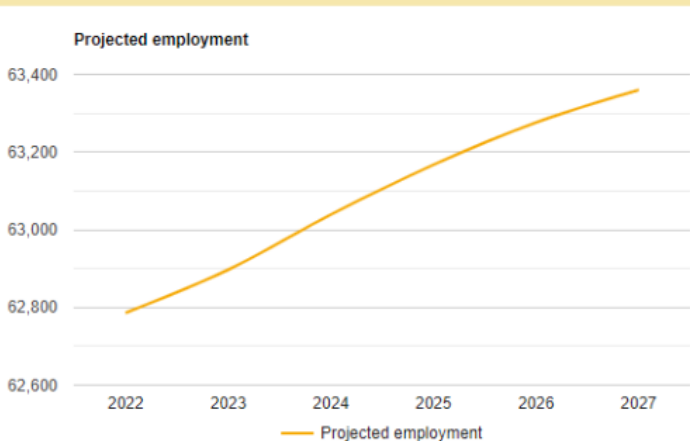
Career Path and Progression

Many musicians are self-employed freelancers and often have to do other jobs alongside their career as a musician.

With experience, you could:

- progress in an orchestra to principal player or section leader
- move into conducting
- start your own ensemble
- go into business roles like manager, producer, writer or work at a record company
- become a singing teacher, vocal coach or teach your musical instrument
- get into academic research

FUTURE EMPLOYMENT: MUSICIANS



REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT: MUSICIANS

