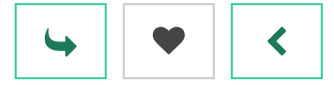


1 2 3

Prop maker

Also called: Prop designer, prop builder

Prop makers create objects for use in films, TV programmes and the theatre.



What you'll do

You could work for a film studio, TV production company, theatre or touring theatre company.

You'll make anything from fake jewellery to replica weapons or moving models. You'll work with materials like metal, wood and textiles.

Your day-to-day tasks may include:

- discussing what props are needed
- interpreting plans, from rough sketches to detailed designs
- carrying out historical research to make authentic-looking items
- experimenting with different materials to create effects like ageing
- using power tools
- hiring, buying or repairing props

Record relevant activities you've already done on the [Activities tool](#) >

Working hours and environment

Your hours will depend on the needs of the production you're working on. You may need to put in long hours to meet deadlines.

You could work in a workshop or backstage at a theatre, or film or TV set. Working conditions may be cramped and dusty. You may have to work with chemicals like glues and paints.

You'll need to travel to visit suppliers and carry out research.

Career path and progression

With experience, you could move into set design, production design or stage management.

Skills required

You'll need:

- model-making skills
- the ability to follow instructions and use your imagination to interpret ideas
- the ability to use computer-aided design (CAD) packages
- budgeting skills
- practical skills like carpentry, sewing, painting, welding

Got evidence of these skills? Record your examples on the [Skills tool](#) >

Entry requirements

There are no set entry requirements, but many prop makers start their career with a qualification in production arts, prop making, technical theatre or set design.

Experience volunteering at events like student productions, festivals, and amateur theatre could help you make industry contacts and find work.

You could get into this job through an [apprenticeship](#). Some arts organisations, such as the [Royal Opera House](#), also offer apprenticeships.

Related know-how guides

Explore know-how guides related to this career:

- [Employer profile: Royal Ballet and Opera \(RBO\)](#) >

Related university subjects

These university subjects are related to this career; check out their profiles on the Subjects library:

- [Drama and Theatre studies](#) >
- [Film and Photography](#) >
- [Crafts, Jewellery, and Woodworking](#) >

Related careers

You may also be interested in:

- [Model maker](#) >
- [Jewellery designer](#) >
- [Costume designer](#) >
- [Set designer](#) >
- [Animator](#) >
- [Stage manager](#) >

Explore

Want to see what relevant education and training opportunities are available right now? Search here:

Drama and Theatre studies at uni:



Film and Photography at uni:

USA >

UK >

Canada >

Europe >

Asia >

Australasia >

Middle East and Africa >

Ireland >

Crafts, Jewellery, and Woodworking at uni:

USA >

UK >

Canada >

Europe >

Asia >

Australasia >

Middle East and Africa >

Ireland >

Apprenticeships:

UK >

Labour Market Information (LMI)

Median averages relating to the Prop maker profession.

● UK USA

Jobs

Craft workers

70,400 **323** in your local area of Liverpool**Top 5 local areas**

1	Kent	1,936
2	Essex	1,896
3	Hampshire	1,612
4	Lancashire	1,541
5	St Helens	1,439

Salaries

Woodworkers

£33,078 **(Not enough data for this region)** in your region of North West**Top 5 regions**

1	Yorkshire and the Humber	£37,873
2	South West	£35,003
3	East of England	£33,581
4	South East	£27,794
5	Scotland	£25,186

🕒 Hours/week

Woodworkers

40

📍 38.1 in your region of North West

📈 Growth

2020-2035

Textiles, Food and Craft workers

+7.4%

↑ 47,729 jobs

📍 +5.1% in your region of North West, an increase of 3,288 jobs

Save to Favourites? ❤️

You haven't favourited any Careers library profiles yet

People also liked...

Those that liked this career profile also liked the following



Set designer

Design and create backdrops and settings for video productions including TV, film, and theatre.

[Read the profile >](#)



Costume designer

Costume designers are responsible for designing, making, and hiring costumes for everyone on a stage or screen production.

[Read the profile >](#)



Special effects (SFX) artist

Special effects (SFX) make-up artists create other-worldly characters, or gore, for TV.

[Read the profile >](#)