

Supply Chain Career Steps and Progression routes

The average salary for a role within supply chain ranges from £18,000 to £32,000.

Upon completion of your supply chain apprenticeship and with experience in this sector, you could progress into other departments such as planning, operations and purchasing. Supply chain covers a wide spectrum of producers, distributors, and transportation companies. This offers people to have transferrable skills that can work across multiple companies/vendors.

With further training, you could specialise in an area like management, buying, operations, logistics analysis.

Please see further details on some of these progression routes below:



Supply Chain Manager

Average salary

Ranges from £24,000 to £48,000

Supply chain managers organise the movement of goods and materials from suppliers and manufacturers to customers.

You can get into this job through:

- a university course
- an apprenticeship
- working towards this role

University

Trainee manager positions are open to graduates of most subjects though you may find it useful to do a foundation degree, higher national diploma, or degree in subjects like:

- logistics
- supply chain management
- transport management
- business management

You can find out about industry sponsored degree courses in supply chain management from [NOVUS](#).

Apprenticeship

You may be able to access a supply chain leadership or express delivery manager degree apprenticeship. You could also do a transport and warehouse operations supervisor advanced apprenticeship.

Career path and progression

You could start in a junior role like transport clerk and work your way up through training and promotion.

You can do work-based training courses through [The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport](#).

Look at progression in this role and similar opportunities. With experience, you could progress to senior planning jobs and consultancy work. You could start working in a warehouse or as a customer service adviser and train on the job to become a team supervisor, team leader then manager. There are many customer service training courses, and your employer would suggest the ones most relevant to the industry you work in.

Skills and knowledge

For a management role you will need:

- business management skills
- leadership skills
- knowledge of transport methods, costs, and benefits
- knowledge of manufacturing production and processes
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- customer service skills
- the ability to work well with others
- analytical thinking skills
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently

If you are already working as a supply chain operative, you could become a manager through company training and promotion.

Look at progression in this role and similar opportunities.

You could:

- move into a more senior position
- take on responsibility for supply/logistics across an area
- become a director for a whole organisation
- work in business planning, operations or buying

Warehouse Manager

Average salary

Ranges from £23,000 to £34,000

Warehouse managers plan and co-ordinate warehouse operations at distribution depots, retail superstores and manufacturing plants.

You can get into this job through:

- a college course
- an apprenticeship
- University
- applying directly
- Working towards this role

University

You could do a foundation degree, higher national diploma, or degree in:

- logistics
- supply chain management
- transport management

College

You could take a college course, which may help you to find an assistant or trainee manager's job. Relevant subjects include:

- Level 3 Diploma in Warehouse Operations
- Level 4 or Level 5 in Supply Chain Management

Apprenticeship

You can do a transport and warehouse operations supervisor advanced apprenticeship

Forklift Driver

Average salary

Ranges from £17,000 to £30,000

Career Tips:

When someone completes forklift truck training, they will receive proof of completion in the form of a certificate which is commonly referred to as the forklift truck license. Make sure you get a copy of your forklift training certificate so you can use it for job applications. The price of Forklift Truck (FLT) training will be determined by the course you are looking to take which can range from **£200 to £700** depending on course status. You should also ensure that you renew your qualification **at least every three years** with a refresher training course.

For further information visit the [RTITB](#) website

National Careers Service

A skills assessment can be helpful at any stage of your career, like when you:

- start your career
- return to work
- progress your career

Transferable skills are a set of skills that you're good at. You can build them up over time, through work, volunteering, education and life. You can apply these skills to a range of jobs. You may want to take an assessment to help you:

- find out what interests and motivates you
- identify your skills
- find out what you can do with the skills you have

Discover your skills and careers

Understanding yourself can help you work out what careers you may enjoy working in.

Please click [HERE](#) to take a skills assessment

This assessment:

- contains fewer than 50 multiple-choice questions
- takes 5 to 10 minutes to complete

When you finish, you will see some suggestions of roles you may enjoy based on your answers. You may want to [explore careers](#) based on these recommendations. You can compare different careers to see what interests you.

Employment Agencies

Employment agencies give you the opportunity to register your intention to look for employment and will often screen your area of expertise and provide you with current opportunities

There are a number of Employment Agencies available to register with, some are generic in employment areas and others are more specific to the sector.

[Reed](#)

[Adecco](#)

[Indeed](#)