

CAREER OF THE WEEK: Warehouse Operative

What does a warehouse operative do?

A warehouse operative plays a crucial role in the logistical operations of a company, ensuring that goods are handled efficiently, accurately, and safely throughout the storage and distribution process.

Typically, the duties of a warehouse operative may include dealing with incoming goods, checking them against orders and inspecting them for any damage or discrepancies; storing goods in designated locations within the warehouse; fulfilling orders by picking and packing items securely for shipment; maintaining accurate stock information; loading and unloading goods using a forklift or pallet truck, or conveyor system; and ensuring the warehouse remains clean and following safety procedures to prevent accidents and injuries.



Warehouse facilities often operate 24 hours a day, so a warehouse operative may be expected to work a mixture of shifts including early, late, nights, evenings, and weekends.

What can I expect to earn as a warehouse operative?

As a guide, the starting salary for a warehouse operative is typically between £18,000 and £24,000 per annum. With experience, this could increase, and employers usually pay a higher rate to staff who work night and overtime shifts.

What subjects should I study to become a warehouse operative?

There are no formal academic qualifications required to become a warehouse operative, but some employers may want you to have GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), including maths and English.

How can I start my career as a warehouse operative?

There are different ways to start your career as a warehouse operative. You could complete a course like the Level 1 or 2 certificate in warehousing and storage and then apply for work, you could complete an apprenticeship such as the supply chain warehouse operative intermediate apprenticeship, or you could apply directly to companies who will usually advertise their vacancies on their website, in the Jobcentre, or on online job boards. To gain some experience, you could apply for temporary or seasonal work in a warehouse.

To research local education and training opportunities that could lead to a career as a warehouse operative, visit our partner website www.logonmoveon.co.uk

Useful websites to find out more about a career as a warehouse operative:

National Careers Service <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/warehouse-worker>

Youth Employment UK, How to become a warehouse operative

<https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/careers-hub-job-role/warehouse-operative-careers/>

Generation Logistics <https://generationlogistics.org/job-families-roles/warehousing/>

The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport <https://ciltuk.org.uk/>

