

Fact Sheet: Building Services Engineer

A job profile:

Building Services Engineers design the equipment related to environmental services, which goes into a building. This includes heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, refrigeration systems, water pipes, lifts, escalators, lighting, acoustics, fire protection and telecommunications cabling. Some premises such as hospitals need specialised equipment. .

Building services engineers work in an office and on site. You could be:

- Discussing requirements with the client and the rest of the construction team.
- Calculating the volume of space the system is to heat or ventilate and the numbers of people passing through the area.
- Taking into account global environmental issues such as energy efficiency and the need to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide.
- Designing the lighting levels and choosing appropriate light sources.
- Preparing the plans using computer aided design (CAD) software



Which school subjects could lead to a career as a building services engineer?

Having an interest in energy and resources is useful. Engineers tend to be practical, creative, have a keen interest in how things work and a good awareness of environmental issues. It will also help if you enjoy the following school subjects:

- Design and Technology
- Mathematics
- Science (particularly physics and environmental science)
- ICT

Becoming A Building Services Engineer - Skills and entry requirements.

- To register with the Engineering Council and the Chartered Institute of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE) you need both academic qualifications and practical experience.

- To enter a relevant degree course, the usual requirement is 2/3 A levels or equivalent in the following preferred subjects: mathematics, physics or engineering science.
- To become an Incorporated Engineer (IEng) you need a degree in building services engineering or environmental engineering, but electrical, mechanical or electronic engineering may be acceptable.
- To become a Chartered Engineer (CEng) you usually need an MEng or equivalent.

Other useful websites to explore:

- For further information on how to become a building services engineer visit the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers website.
<http://www.cibse.org>
- The Good Day website also provides additional information about a career in building services engineering.
<http://goodday.org.uk>
- Enginuity is a website that can inform you all about careers in engineering
<http://www.enginuity.org.uk>
- www.summitskills.org.uk
- www.citbcsni.org.uk/careers
- www.nidirect.gov.uk/careers
- www.bconstructive.co.uk