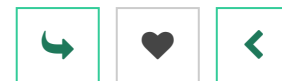


1 2 3

Pop musician

Pop musicians perform and record different styles of music.



[Read Ben Ellis's story](#) 🔍

What you'll do

Your daily tasks may include:

- practising and rehearsing
- playing live in front of an audience
- composing music
- taking part in recording sessions
- promoting your music by contacting agents and record companies, using social media, sending people demonstration ('demo') recordings, setting up a website
- arranging gigs and tours (or dealing with a manager or agent who does this for you)

You'll often need to combine music with other types of work, particularly at the start of your career.

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

Working hours and environment

You may play in a range of places like pubs and clubs, recording studios or theatres and music festivals.

You might play one-off gigs, regular weekly or monthly slots, or you could be booked for a whole season if touring as a session musician or appearing at a holiday park or on a cruise ship.

Most of your gigs would take place in the evening. Studio recording can run until late at night.

You'd be expected to have your own instruments and possibly also stage and studio equipment.

Career path and progression

With experience you could go into the business side of music as a manager, producer, writer or working for a record company.

You could become a member of a professional organisation like [The Musicians' Union](#) or the [Incorporated Society of Musicians](#) for access to training, events and networking opportunities.

Skills required

You'll need:

- musical skills
- the ability to accept criticism and rejection
- business skills

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

Entry requirements

There are no set requirements.

You'll often need a good level of musical ability on your chosen instrument or as a singer. It can help if you can read music but it's not always essential.

You can get practical experience, make industry contacts and get noticed by performing.

You could also showcase your talents through social media or initiatives like [BBC Introducing](#).

Related university subject profiles

These university subjects are related to this career; check out their profiles on the [Subjects library](#):

- [Creative writing](#) >
- [Music](#) >

Related career profiles

You may also be interested in:

- [Classical musician](#) >
- [DJ](#) >
- [Singer](#) >
- [Session musician](#) >

Explore

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

Creative writing at uni:

[USA](#) > [UK](#) > [Canada](#) > [Europe](#) > [Asia](#) > [Australasia](#) > [Middle East and Africa](#) > [Ireland](#) >

Music at uni:

[USA](#) > [UK](#) > [Canada](#) > [Europe](#) > [Asia](#) > [Australasia](#) > [Middle East and Africa](#) > [Ireland](#) >

Apprenticeships:

[UK](#) >

College / Sixth Form:

[UK](#) >

Labour Market Information (LMI)

Current and predicted figures relating to the Pop musician profession. Median averages are shown, each with the specific career, or group of careers, that they apply to.

● UK USA

Jobs

Artistic, literary and media occupations

342,899

 2,417 in your local area of Liverpool

Top 5 local areas

1	Surrey	8,868
2	Hackney	8,587
3	Kent	8,466
4	Hertfordshire	8,120
5	Lambeth	7,261

Salaries

Musicians

£42,444

Artistic, literary and media occupations

£32,914

 £30,531 in your region of North West

Top 3 regions

1	South East	£35,849
2	London	£34,864
3	North West	£30,531

Growth

2020-2035

Culture, media and sports occupations

+.2% ↑ 1,593 jobs

📍 **-4.8%** in your region of North West, an decrease of 2,325 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



Singer

Singers perform and/or record songs for stage, radio, television, or film.

[Read the profile >](#)



Actor

Actors bring stories and characters to life in film and television, on the stage, in audiobooks, or on the radio.

[Read the profile >](#)



Music producer

Music producers oversee the creation of a soundtrack, or album.

[Read the profile >](#)