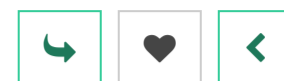


1 2 3

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:

- [The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama: What it's really like](#) >

Related university subject profiles

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 career profiles

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:

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Labour Market Information (LMI)

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

 UK USA

Jobs

Other skilled trades

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

Furniture makers and other craft woodworkers

£25,732

Other skilled trades

Top 3 regions

Growth

2020-2035

Textiles, printing and other skilled trades

+7.4% ↑ 47,729 jobs

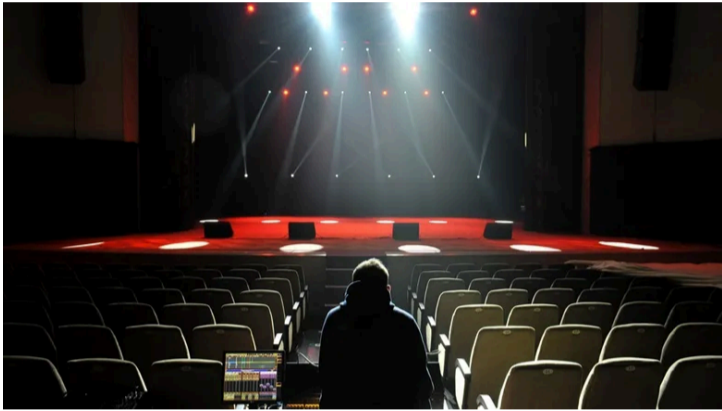
📍 **+5.1%** in your region of North West, an increase of 3,288 jobs

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You haven't favourited any Careers library profiles yet

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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 >](#)



Fashion designer

Fashion designers design and make clothes for companies, retailers, and manufacturers.

[Read the profile >](#)