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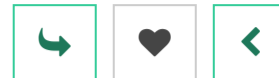
2

3

Session musician

Also called: Studio Musician, Backing Musician

Session musicians are hired by other musicians to perform with them short-term, whether live or for a recording.



What you'll do

A session musician is someone who performs music in a recording session. They're hired by the music contractor, the music producer, the band or the record, film or video production company to play whatever music is going to be recorded at that session.

Session musicians are usually specialised in a particular musical genre.

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

Working hours and environment

Flexible

Career path and progression

In this career, advancement means either building a greater reputation or getting a higher pay rate.

Skills required

Experience performing music is essential—not just for technique, but also for the networking opportunities that will get you jobs.

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

Entry requirements

Higher education isn't strictly necessary, but an in-depth knowledge of music theory and technique is. It's also beneficial to play a wide range of instruments.

Related university subject profiles

These university subjects are related to this career; check out their profiles on the Subjects library:

- [Music >](#)

Related career profiles

You may also be interested in:

- [Music teacher >](#)
- [Audio visual technician >](#)
- [Music composer and arranger >](#)

Explore

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

Music at uni:

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

Apprenticeships:

- [UK >](#)

Labour Market Information (LMI)

Current and predicted figures relating to the Session 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...

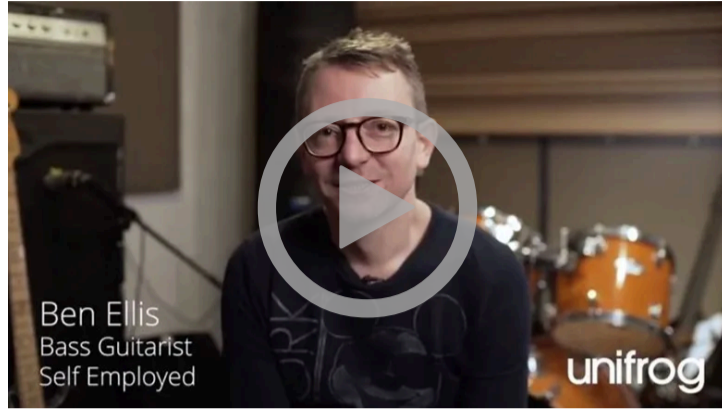
Those that liked this career profile also liked the following



Music producer

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

[Read the profile >](#)



Pop musician

Pop musicians perform and record different styles of music.

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Music composer and...

Composers write musical scores. A scores, but are more likely to take o transcribe them for different instru contexts.

[Read the profile >](#)

