





Stagehand







Also called: Stage technician

Stagehands help to get things ready on set for performances in the theatre, at concerts and in TV and film studios.



What you'll do

Your day-to-day duties may include:

- loading and unloading equipment
- helping carpenters build and put up scenery
- attending rehearsals
- moving scenery, furniture and heavy equipment
- opening and closing theatre curtains between acts
- operating manual and automated scenery-moving machinery
- clearing the stage or studio and backstage area at the end of the performance

Record relevant activities you've already done on the Activities tool

Working hours and environment

Your hours will vary according to the needs of the show. Most theatre performances take place in the evening, but you'll also work in the afternoons during rehearsals or matinee shows. In film and TV most of the technical work is during the day.

You might work in one venue, or travel to different venues when on tour.

You'll sometimes need to work at height.

Career path and progression

Skills required

You'll need:

- good physical fitness and stamina
- good practical skills
- the ability to work under pressure

Got evidence of these skills? Record your examples on the Skills tool >

Entry requirements

There are no set requirements. Backstage experience from school, college, amateur, or fringe productions will be helpful. It'll also help if you have skills and experience in carpentry, electrical work, metalwork, painting and decorating, sound, or lighting.

You could start in a theatre or venue as a member of casual backstage staff.

You could get into this job through an apprenticeship.

Creative Choices has more information about careers in the theatre and the performing arts.

Related university subject profiles

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

Drama and Theatre studies >

Related career profiles

You may also be interested in:

- Roadie >
- Prop maker >
- Production runner (TV or film) >
- Stage manager >
- Lighting technician >
- Grip >

Explore

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

Drama and Theatre studies at uni:



Apprenticeships:



Labour Market Information (LMI)

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





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

Photographers, audio-visual and broadcasting equipment operators

£29,047

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

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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 >



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

Read the profile >

Director (TV or film)

TV and film directors are responsik vision of a script. They make key de choices and production design.

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