



Sound Engineer

A sound engineer works by mixing, mastering and working with sound at live events, including wedding and private parties and in areas such as pre-recorded content for soundtracks, films and other audio/visual [AV] requirements. A sound engineers main job is to make sure the sound is mixed perfectly for the context in which it is used so that audience experience is the best possible.

Must be:

- Good at listening
- Know the science of music and sound
- Teamworker
- Leader
- Problem solver
- The ability to network

Areas of work:

- Front of house, live sound
- Monitor and Foldback
- Live events Sports Games or Ceremonies
- Broadcast, Radio or TV
- Computer Games
- Advertising
- Studio Recording
- Studio Mixing
- Studio Mastering

Income

- Your income will vary depending on which industry you specialise in. This could be in a small or large studio, a small venue or on a live music tour.
- Starting salaries are generally low at around £15,000, until you've gained a reputation and have some experience.
- More experienced sound engineers can expect to earn between £20,000 and £40,000. Engineers working with very successful artists may command higher salaries.

* Freelance work is increasingly common. Experienced freelancers can expect a daily rate of £150-250. Touring is the most profitable way to freelance, where your pay will include travel time and days off.