

Trade Career Fit Checklist

Use this checklist to figure out whether a skilled trade is a smart fit for your goals, lifestyle, and strengths.

Print it, save it, or fill it out digitally—whatever works for you.

Personal Interests

- ☐ Do you enjoy fixing, building, or working with your hands?
 - ☐ Do you prefer active work over desk jobs?
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Physical Demands

- ☐ Can you handle standing for long periods or lifting heavy tools?
 - ☐ Are you okay working outdoors or in varying environments?
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Salary Expectations

- ☐ Are you looking for fast entry (within 6–12 months)?
 - ☐ Do you want a long-term path to \$80K+ or more?
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Licensing & Training

- ☐ Will your trade require a state license or apprenticeship?
 - ☐ Are you okay with 1–4 years of on-the-job learning?
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Local Job Demand

- ☐ Is the trade in demand in your area?
 - ☐ Have you checked job boards or BLS.gov for real stats?
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Work-Life Balance

- ☐ Will this trade allow flexibility, stability, or time off?
 - ☐ Do shifts, overtime, or seasonal work match your lifestyle?
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☒ **Long-Term Growth**

- ☐ Does the trade offer chances to specialize or start your own business?
- ☐ Can you grow into supervisor, trainer, or contractor roles?

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