

Exploring Careers Through Technical Routes

HGV driving



The Industry

Do you like driving or travelling around the country and working on your own? If so work as an HGV driver for a manufacturer, a distributor or a road haulage firm. You can drive commercial vehicles over 7.5 tonnes including articulated lorries, tankers, transporters and trailer wagons. You will work from depots, distribution centres or warehouses picking up and dropping off deliveries to businesses, factories, shops or restaurants.

Apart from driving your duties may include: maintaining your vehicle; adhering to health, safety and security procedures; assessing your vehicle for safety and general faults; planning delivery schedules and routes with transport managers; supervising/loading/unloading goods onto vehicles safely; ensuring goods are secured and transited safely; reporting breakdowns or traffic delays to a dispatcher; navigating to destinations; completing delivery paperwork and log books.

Skills for Logistics <http://www.skillsforlogistics.co.uk>
The Road Haulage Association <https://www.rha.uk>
Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in the UK
<https://www.ciltuk.org.uk/Careers/CareersInformation/CareerProfiles/LGVDriving>

Skills and Requirements

You must be over 18 and hold a full car driving licence. Other knowledge and skills required include:

- A good geographical knowledge of the UK
- Ability to liaise with customers and staff
- Knowledge of tachograph legislation and Transport Working Time Regulations
- Reliability, honesty, trustworthy
- Hard worker with good timekeeping & planning skills
- The ability to complete record sheets and paperwork accurately
- Good numeracy and literacy skills
- Willingness to work alone and concentrate for long periods of time even when under pressure
- Awareness of health and safety issues and rules of the road e.g. highway code
- IT for operating in-cab technology
- Flexibility as hours can be anti social with overnight stays in the cab
- Physically fit with good eyesight and colour vision
- Driver Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC)
- Basic motor maintenance would also be useful.

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Working and Learning as an HGV driver



Job Roles & Progression

Study Programme

Levels 2 and 3

Heavy Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Competence.



Further study

Initial Driver CPC

- theory and hazard awareness
- case study questions and answers
- practical driving test
- practical demonstration test.



Apprenticeships

Level 2

Primary Transport.
Driving Goods Vehicles.
Supply Chain Specialist Large Goods Vehicle (LGV) Driver.

Level 3

Driving Goods Vehicles.



Career roles

Advisory Dangerous Goods by Road Certificate (ADR) to drive hazardous goods e.g. toxic chemicals by tanker.
LGV instructor.
Freight transport planner.
Operations manager.
Distribution manager.

Calculation including problem solving

Tasks

1. Calculate the mileage for a journey from the depot to five customers and back.
2. Estimate the amount of foreign currency needed to fill your tank at an overseas drop for your return journey to the UK.
3. Using previous data, establish the probability of a traffic jam on the quickest route to your destination.
4. Calculate the weight of your cargo to decide on the best way of loading.
5. Check your weekly pay slip for accuracy.

Links to GCSE Maths

1. **Geometry and measure** (units of measure - using standard units).
2. **Number** (approximation - estimating calculations, rounding to decimal places).
Geometry and measure (units of measure - using standard units; speed).
3. **Probability** (finding probability).
4. **Number** (whole numbers - division)
Geometry and measure (units of measure - density).
5. **Number** (Financial mathematics - wages and salaries).

Communication, all forms

Tasks

1. Report a breakdown to your transport manager.
2. Ensure the customer is happy with their delivery on drop off.
3. Complete a job record following your week of travel.
4. Assess your truck before a journey in terms of safety and general faults and record this on your vehicle maintenance log.
5. Read the manual for a new cab radio to ensure you can operate it accurately.

Links to GCSE English Language

1. **Spoken language** (speaking and listening - audience and purpose).
2. **Spoken language** (audience and purpose; personal presence; voice).
3. **Writing** (writing non-fiction - writing a report; literary techniques - informative language; vocabulary - use precise verbs).
4. **Writing** (context, audience, purpose; writing non-fiction - writing a report; expanding your vocabulary).
5. **Analysing non-fiction** (non-fiction text type - manual, information; responding to a non-fiction text - understanding).