

Insulation Workers

SOC: 47-2130 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$50,730

Median Salary

67,400

Employment

+4.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: See Requirements (BLS)

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Medium Risk - 35.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job has some routine elements but still requires human judgment and interaction.

■■ Work-Life Balance

5.1/10 - Fair work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	9.4/10	Investigative	5.8/10
Artistic	4.0/10	Social	5.0/10
Enterprising	5.0/10	Conventional	6.0/10

■ Top Skills Required

Ability to work at heights, Dexterity, Math skills, Mechanical skills, Physical stamina, Physical strength

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Insulation Workers install and replace **insulating materials in buildings, machinery, and equipment to control temperature, conserve energy, and reduce noise**. They measure, cut, and fit materials such as fiberglass, foam, and reflective barriers. Their work is critical in construction, manufacturing, and energy efficiency.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy hands-on work, attention to detail, and working with building materials.

What Do Insulation Workers Do?

These professionals prepare and install insulation to improve energy efficiency, safety, and comfort.

Common responsibilities include:

- Measuring and cutting insulation materials to fit specific areas
- Installing insulation in walls, ceilings, floors, and around pipes or equipment
- Applying vapor barriers, sealants, and protective coatings
- Inspecting and maintaining insulation systems
- Following safety procedures to handle materials properly
- Collaborating with construction teams, contractors, and engineers
- Maintaining tools, equipment, and clean work areas

Key Areas of Insulation Work

Insulation workers may specialize in specific materials or construction environments:

- Building Insulation: Installing thermal and acoustic insulation in residential or commercial structures
- Mechanical Insulation: Insulating pipes, ductwork, and mechanical systems
- Spray Foam and Specialty Materials: Using advanced insulation techniques
- Energy Efficiency and Weatherization: Reducing energy consumption and improving comfort
- Maintenance and Repairs: Replacing or upgrading old or damaged insulation

Skills and Abilities Needed

Insulation workers combine technical, physical, and problem-solving skills.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires vocational training or on-the-job experience:

- High School Diploma or GED (minimum): Basic math, measurement, and technical skills
- Apprenticeship or Vocational Training: Learning insulation materials, installation methods, and safety procedures
- On-the-Job Training: Gaining practical experience under supervision
- Certification (optional): Industry certifications for specialized insulation techniques
- Continuous Learning: Staying current on materials, methods, and energy-efficiency standards

Where Do Insulation Workers Work?

They are employed in construction, manufacturing, and energy industries:

- Residential and Commercial Construction
- Industrial Facilities
- Energy and Utility Companies
- Manufacturing Plants

- Self-Employed or Contracting

Work environments include construction sites, industrial locations, and indoor or outdoor project sites.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires physical endurance, precision, and safety awareness. Workers must handle materials carefully, follow safety protocols, and complete projects accurately.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy hands-on construction or mechanical work
- Are detail-oriented and precise
- Can perform physically demanding tasks
- Are safety-conscious and reliable
- Want a career improving energy efficiency and building performance

How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in construction, industrial arts, or technical education
- Gain experience through apprenticeships, vocational programs, or part-time work
- Practice measuring, cutting, and installing insulation materials
- Learn safety procedures and proper use of tools
- Stay informed on energy-efficiency standards and new insulation technologies

Insulation workers install and maintain materials that improve energy efficiency, comfort, and safety in buildings and industrial systems.

*Generated by StartRight • Data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics & O*NET*

Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/insulation-workers.htm>