

Automotive Body and Glass Repairers

SOC: 49-3021 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$50,680

Median Salary

193,000

Employment

+2.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: High school diploma

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Low Risk - 25.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

■ Work-Life Balance

3.6/10 - Challenging work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	8.8/10	Investigative	7.4/10
Artistic	4.4/10	Social	5.6/10
Enterprising	4.6/10	Conventional	6.4/10

■ Top Skills Required

Critical-thinking skills, Customer-service skills, Detail oriented, Dexterity, Mechanical skills, Physical strength, Time-management skills

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Automotive Body and Glass Repairers are skilled trades professionals who restore **damaged vehicle bodies, frames, and glass** to safe, functional, and visually appealing condition. They repair collision damage, replace broken glass, and refinish surfaces so vehicles meet safety standards and manufacturer specifications. Their work blends craftsmanship, precision measurement, and modern repair technology.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy hands-on work, attention to detail, and seeing tangible results from technical skill.

What Do Automotive Body and Glass Repairers Do?

These professionals assess vehicle damage and perform repairs using specialized tools and materials. Their responsibilities emphasize safety, accuracy, and finish quality.

Common responsibilities include:

- Inspecting vehicles to assess collision or glass damage
- Removing and replacing damaged body panels, bumpers, and trim
- Repairing frames and unibody structures to manufacturer specs
- Filling, sanding, and reshaping metal or composite surfaces
- Replacing windshields, windows, and mirrors
- Preparing surfaces and applying primers, paints, and clear coats
- Using computerized measuring systems to ensure proper alignment

Types of Automotive Body and Glass Repair Roles

Specializations vary by repair focus:

- Auto Body Repairers: Restore metal and composite body panels.
- Collision Repair Technicians: Repair structural and cosmetic damage after crashes.
- Automotive Glass Installers: Replace windshields and vehicle glass.
- Frame and Structural Technicians: Straighten and align frames and unibody structures.
- Refinish Technicians (Painters): Apply coatings and color-matched finishes.

Skills and Abilities Needed

Automotive body and glass repairers combine craftsmanship with technical precision.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Training Pathway

Most professionals enter the field through technical training and hands-on experience:

- High School Diploma or Equivalent: Typical minimum requirement
- Automotive Body Repair Programs: Vocational, technical, or community college training
- On-the-Job Training or Apprenticeships: Supervised shop experience
- Industry Certifications (optional): Credentials for body, paint, or glass repair
- Continuing Education: Training on new materials, vehicles, and repair methods

Where Do Automotive Body and Glass Repairers Work?

These professionals work in a range of automotive service settings:

- Collision Repair and Body Shops

- Automobile Dealership Service Centers
- Glass Replacement Companies
- Fleet Maintenance Facilities
- Custom or Restoration Shops
- Insurance-Partnered Repair Centers

Work is typically performed indoors in repair bays or paint booths.

How Much Do Automotive Body and Glass Repairers Earn?

Earnings vary by specialization, experience, and employer:

- Entry-Level Repairers: Typically earn hourly wages while building skills
- Experienced or Certified Technicians: Often earn higher pay due to expertise
- Specialized Frame, Paint, or Glass Technicians: May earn more with advanced skills

Compensation may include flat-rate pay, bonuses, or overtime.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career is physically demanding and detail-intensive. Repairers must work precisely with tools, materials, and finishes while meeting safety and quality standards. The challenge lies in restoring vehicles accurately, matching finishes, and keeping pace with evolving vehicle designs and materials.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy hands-on craftsmanship and technical work
- Have an eye for detail and aesthetics
- Like problem-solving and restoration tasks
- Prefer a skilled trade with visible results
- Want steady demand tied to vehicle ownership

How to Prepare Early

- Learn basic mechanics, metalwork, and safety practices
- Practice using hand tools and measuring equipment
- Develop attention to detail through shop or hobby projects
- Explore automotive body repair training programs
- Gain experience through internships or entry-level shop roles

Automotive body and glass repairers restore safety, structure, and appearance after damage—bringing vehicles back to the road with precision, craftsmanship, and pride in every repair.

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

Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/installation-maintenance-and-repair/automotive-body-and-glass-repairers.htm>