# Forensic Computer Analyst

## What is it?

A Forensic Computer Analyst investigates cybercrime by recovering and analysing data from computers and digital devices. Their work helps law enforcement and private organisations uncover evidence of criminal activity such as hacking, fraud, and identity theft. They play a key role in digital investigations and cybersecurity.

## Qualifications/Experience Required:

You can become a forensic computer analyst through several routes. Most professionals have a degree in computer science, cybersecurity, or a related subject. Alternatively, you can enter the field through a **Cyber Security Technologist Level 4 Higher Apprenticeship** or a **Digital Forensic Technician Level 4 Apprenticeship**. Some analysts begin in IT support or network engineering roles and gain experience before specialising.

## What the Work Involves:

- Investigating hacking, fraud, and data theft.
- Recovering and securing deleted or encrypted data.
- Analysing mobile phone records and digital trails.
- Securing IT systems and hardware from threats.
- Presenting technical findings and evidence in reports or court.

## Future Prospects – Labour Market Information:

The demand for forensic computer analysts is growing, with a **4.3% increase in jobs expected by 2029**. With experience, you could progress to roles such as **Senior Analyst**, **Head of Security**, or **Cybersecurity Consultant**. The skills are highly transferable across sectors including law enforcement, finance, and private cybersecurity firms.
**Typical weekly hours – 37 to 39 hours per week.**
*Some roles may require evening or weekend work, especially during urgent investigations.*

## Type of person who may be suited to this job:

- Analytical and detail oriented.
- Strong understanding of computer systems and networks.
- Able to work under pressure and meet deadlines.
- Good at problem-solving and critical thinking.
- Comfortable handling sensitive or confidential information.

## Money/Wage Guide:

- **Starting Salary: £30,000**
- **Experienced Salary: Up to £62,000**
- **Average UK Salary (2024): £37,430**

## Related Opportunities:

- **Cyber Intelligence Officer**
- **IT Security Analyst**
- **Network Engineer**
- **Digital Forensics Technician**

## Further Information:

- [National Careers Service – Forensic Computer Analyst](#)
- [Careerpilot – Forensic Computer Analyst](#)