

## Gas Network Operative

### What is it?

Gas Network Operatives (also known as Gas Mains Layers) install, maintain, and repair the underground pipelines that supply gas to homes and businesses. They play a vital role in ensuring the safe and efficient delivery of gas across the UK. Their work often involves digging, laying pipes, and responding to emergency gas leaks.

### Qualifications/Experience Required:

You can become a Gas Network Operative through a **Level 2 Intermediate Apprenticeship in Gas Industry Network Operations**, which typically takes around two years to complete. Entry requirements usually include some GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A\* to C), particularly in English, maths, and science. Experience in construction, plumbing, or building services can be helpful. You can also apply directly to gas distribution companies for trainee roles

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

- Practical and physically fit.
- Comfortable working outdoors and in all weather.
- Good at problem-solving and following safety procedures.
- Able to work well in a team.
- Skilled at using tools and machinery.

### What the Work Involves:

- Reading technical drawings to locate where to dig.
- Installing and maintaining gas pipelines and pressure control equipment.
- Responding to emergency gas leaks and isolating damaged areas.
- Using machinery and tools to carry out repairs.
- Working outdoors in all weather conditions.

### Future Prospects – Labour Market Information:

With experience, you could progress to roles such as **Team Leader**, **Site Supervisor**, or **Gas Network Craftsperson**, where you'd install and monitor safety equipment. There are also opportunities to move into related fields like **electricity or water networks**, or to specialise in **gas safety inspections**

**Typical weekly hours – 40 to 45 hours per week.**

*Often on a **shift basis**. This may include **evenings, weekends, and emergency call-outs**.*

### Money/Wage Guide:

- **Starting Salary: £24,000**
- **Experienced Salary: Up to £38,000**
- **Average UK Salary (2024): £37,430 (across all jobs)**

### Related Opportunities:

- **Gas Service Technician**
- **Plumber**
- **Water Network Operative**
- **Construction Operative**

### Further Information:

- [National Careers Service – Gas Mains Layer](#)
- [Careerpilot – Gas Mains Layer](#)