

Job of The Week

Farrier

Key Skills

- work well with your hands
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- excellent verbal communication skills
- the ability to operate and control equipment
- customer service skills
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device
- thinking and reasoning skills
- the ability to work on your own

Salary
£28,000 +

Working hours
40 – 48
as a contractor / self-
employed
as customers demand

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Farrier

Registration

You must be registered with Farriers Registration Council.

College

You could take a one year, Level 2 Access to Farriery course at college that will give you some of the skills and knowledge to apply to be an apprentice farrier.

Entry requirements

Most people following this route have 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3, or equivalent.

Apprenticeship

You can get into this work by doing an advanced apprenticeship in farriery with an approved training farrier.

This takes 48 months to complete and includes training on the job and periods of study at a college approved by the Farriers Registration Council.

Entry requirements

You'll usually need 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 or equivalent, including English, Maths and science or City and Guilds Forgework Certificate.

Other Routes

You could join the Army as a Soldier with the Household Cavalry. After 2 years as a mounted ceremonial trooper, you'll be eligible to apply for the Forge within the regiment and join a team of Farriers.

Career path and progression

With experience you may be able to take higher level qualifications, for example a Diploma in Higher Education or a Degree in farriery. You may be able to work with larger stables, horse breeders or mounted regiments in the Police or Army. You could also work in equine hospitals, with vets or in the farriery suppliers business. You could become an Approved Training Farrier (ATF) and employ and train apprentice farriers.

Day to Day tasks:

As a farrier you'll:

- fit horseshoes
- make final checks to finish
- shape shoes, using a hammer and anvil
- make horseshoes by hand or on a machine
- talk to the horse owner about what work is required
- check the horse's legs, feet and hooves for problems
- cut away excess hoof growth and make sure the horse is properly balanced
- choose suitable shoes for the horse's size, foot condition and type of activity

Working Conditions

You could work at a client's business, at a riding stable or on a farm.

Your working environment may be physically demanding, outdoors in all weathers and you may spend nights away from home.

You may need to wear protective clothing.



Labour Market Information

In the Careers section of the school website you can find the useful comparison tool the 'Labour Market Information widget'.

Use the widget to compare different job roles in any employment sector or relating specifically to the 'Job of the Week'.

Smiths and forge workers

Weekly Pay £540	Annual Pay £28,080
Hours/Week 27h	Hourly Pay £20

Workforce Change (projected)

Contraction -5.4%	Replacement 52%
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The workforce is projected to contract by -5.4% over the period to 2027, losing 200 jobs. In the same period, 52% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 2,000 job openings.

You might find this job in
Agriculture, etc
Metal products

[More info](#)

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Animal care services occupations n.e.c.

Weekly Pay £430	Annual Pay £22,360
Hours/Week 26h	Hourly Pay £17

Workforce Change (projected)

Growth 7.5%	Replacement 54.9%
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The workforce is projected to grow by 7.5% over the period to 2027, creating 5,900 jobs. In the same period, 54.9% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 42,900 job openings.

You might find this job in
Agriculture, etc
Veterinary
Sport & recreation
Education
Libraries, etc

[More info](#)

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Veterinarians

Weekly Pay £740	Annual Pay £38,480
Hours/Week 36h	Hourly Pay £21

Workforce Change (projected)

Growth 5.3%	Replacement 52.1%
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The workforce is projected to grow by 5.3% over the period to 2027, creating 1,400 jobs. In the same period, 52.1% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 13,900 job openings.

You might find this job in
Veterinary
Social work

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Labour Market Information



Smiths and forge workers

Smiths and forge workers operate or direct the operation of power hammers and presses to shape heated metal to requirements and to make and repair a variety of metal articles by heating, hammering and bending.

Common tasks in this job:

- reads and interprets order or blueprint to determine operational requirements;
- heats or supervises the heating in furnace of metal to be forged;
- positions or directs the positioning of heated metal on anvil or other work surface;
- operates or directs operation of press or hammer and repositions workpiece between strokes;

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Animal care services occupations n.e.c.

Workers in this unit group care for animals held in kennels, stables, zoos and similar establishments, provide specialised training, grooming, clipping and trimming services for animals, and searches for and captures stray or nuisance dogs in public areas and perform a variety of animal care tasks not elsewhere classified in MINOR GROUP 613: Animal Care and Control Services.

Common tasks in this job:

- feeds, washes, grooms, trims and exercises animals;
- cleans animals' quarters and renews bedding as necessary;
- houses, feeds, exercises, trains, grooms horses, dogs and other animals in preparation for entry to shows, races and other events;
- checks animals for illness, treats minor ailments or calls for vet if further treatment is required;

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Veterinarians

Veterinarians diagnose and treat animal injuries, diseases and disorders, and advise on preventative action. They may work in practices, specialising according to their location in either a rural or urban area, or in the public sector or associated industries such as pharmaceuticals, food production or drug regulation.

Common tasks in this job:

- examines animals, diagnoses condition and prescribes and administers appropriate drugs, dressings, etc., and arranges or undertakes any necessary x-ray or other tests;
- inoculates animals against communicable diseases;
- administers local or general anaesthetics and performs surgery;
- investigates outbreaks of animal diseases and advises owners on feeding, breeding and general care;

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Keep looking...

Use these links to learn more about our Job of The Week, consider the various pathways leading to the career, what you can be doing now to help yourself and other roles in the industry...

Useful Websites

[Forge & Farrier \(forgeandfarrier.co.uk\)](http://forgeandfarrier.co.uk)

[Household Cavalry Soldier \(mod.uk\)](http://mod.uk)

[Farriers Registration Council : Registration \(farrier-reg.gov.uk\)](http://farrier-reg.gov.uk)

[Equine | Riseholme College](#)

[Mounted Forces | The British Horse Society \(bhs.org.uk\)](http://bhs.org.uk)

[Farrier | Explore careers | National Careers Service](#)

Take a look at these short videos for inspiration...

A day in the life of a Farrier



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVcXHoqlv68&pp=ygUHRkFSUKiFUG%3D%3D>

Becoming a Farrier



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xCmeaxY4e5k&pp=ygUHRkFSUKiFUG%3D%3D>

Female Farrier



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2s4DIKCZCjk&pp=ygUND29tZW4gZmFycmlcg%3D%3D>

Household Cavalry



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qcm00cv7lE&pp=ygUORmFycmlciBmb3JlZXM%3D>

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