

Job of The Week

Video Game
Developer

Key Skills

- Design skills and knowledge
- The ability to write computer code
- To be thorough and pay attention to detail
- Analytical thinking skills
- Maths knowledge
- The ability to come up with new ways of doing things
- Complex problem-solving skills
- Excellent verbal communication skills
- To have a thorough understanding of computer systems and applications

Salary
£27 - £71,000

Working hours
30 – 45 per week
Evenings/weekends

Aspire | Challenge | Achieve

Video Game Developer

Apprenticeship

You could apply to do a Higher Apprenticeship to get into this career, such as:

- Software Developer Level 4
- Junior VFX Artist or Assistant Technical Director Level 4
- Game Programmer Level 7

University

You could do a foundation degree or degree in:

- computer games design
- computer games development
- computer science
- interactive media
- mathematics

If you'd like a job that includes game design as well as programming, you could do a foundation degree or degree in a subject like animation or graphic design.

Entry requirements

You'll usually need:

- at least 1 A level, or equivalent, for a foundation degree
- 2 to 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a degree

Foundation apprenticeship

You may be able to start in a junior or assistant developer role by doing a Software and Data Level 2 Foundation Apprenticeship. You can apply for a foundation apprenticeship if you're aged 16 to 21

College

You could do a college course before moving on to a higher level qualification. It may help you to get a trainee position with a development company.

Courses include:

- computing
- creative media and games development
- T Level in Digital Software Development

Entry requirements

Entry requirements for these courses vary.





Career Path and Progression

With experience you could become a senior developer, producer or technical director. If you have a lot of skills and experience, you could become a freelance developer, working on games for a number of different companies.

Day-to-day tasks

- Work with level designers and graphic artists
- Add audio and sound effects
- Write code to programme the game
- Create concept art, drawings or storyboards at the planning stage
- fix problems and 'bugs' that testers have found
- Use computer modelling and animation software to make characters and scenes
- Decide what a game will look like and how it will be played

Working conditions

You could work in a creative studio or in an office.

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'.

Programmers and software development professionals	Web design professionals	IT quality and testing professionals
<p>Weekly Pay £1,020</p> <p>Hours/Week 46h</p> <p>Annual Pay £53,040</p> <p>Hourly Pay £22</p>	<p>Weekly Pay £830</p> <p>Hours/Week 41h</p> <p>Annual Pay £43,160</p> <p>Hourly Pay £20</p>	<p>Weekly Pay £1,070</p> <p>Hours/Week 42h</p> <p>Annual Pay £55,640</p> <p>Hourly Pay £25</p>
<p>Workforce Change (projected)</p> <p>Growth 9.9%</p> <p>The workforce is projected to grow by 9.9% over the period to 2035, creating 49,700 jobs.</p>	<p>Workforce Change (projected)</p> <p>Growth 9.9%</p> <p>The workforce is projected to grow by 9.9% over the period to 2035, creating 3,400 jobs.</p>	<p>Workforce Change (projected)</p> <p>Growth 9.9%</p> <p>The workforce is projected to grow by 9.9% over the period to 2035, creating 3,400 jobs.</p>
<p>You might find this job in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computer programming, etc Head offices, etc Auxiliary services Retail trade Financial services 	<p>You might find this job in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computer programming, etc Head offices, etc Film & music Telecommunications Retail trade 	<p>You might find this job in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computer programming, etc Repair of goods Retail trade Rental & leasing Services to buildings
<p>More info Clear card</p>	<p>More info Clear card</p>	<p>More info Clear card</p>

Labour Market Information



Programmers and software development professionals

Programmers and software development professionals design, develop, test, implement and maintain software systems on a range of platforms in order to meet the specifications and business objectives of the information system; they also design and develop specialist software e.g. for computer games.

Common tasks in this job:

- examines existing software and determines requirements for new/modified systems in the light of business needs
- undertakes feasibility study to design software solutions
- writes and codes individual programs according to specifications
- develops user interfaces

Back

Clear card

Web design professionals

Web design professionals design, develop and maintain websites and web and mobile applications to meet a client's specified requirements.

Common tasks in this job:

- liaises with internal/external client in order to define the requirements for the website or applications
- presents design options to the client
- designs web pages and applications including graphics, animation and functionality to maximise visual effectiveness and facilitate appropriate access
- designs web interfaces for relational database systems

Back

Clear card

IT quality and testing professionals

IT quality and testing professionals test the quality of IT software, systems and computer games and identify and recommend solutions to problems and improvements that could be made.

Common tasks in this job:

- undertakes the testing of software, systems or computer games for errors, identifies source of problems and proposes solutions
- develops, implements and documents test plans for IT software, systems and computer games
- develops quality standards and validation techniques
- makes recommendations concerning software/system quality

Back

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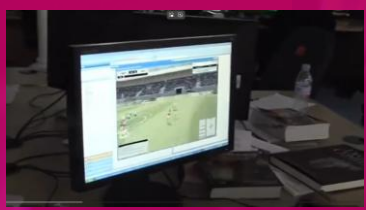
Keep looking...

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

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



[Career Advice on becoming a Games Developer by Tom R \(Full Version\) - YouTube](#)



[Day in the life: Computer game designer](#)



[How to get a Job in the Video Games Industry in 2025](#)



[Careers in video games: lead level designer \(Stuart, Ubisoft\) - One Minute Mentor](#)



Useful Websites

[Build your games portfolio - ScreenSkills](#)

[UK Games Map - Ukie](#)

[Careers | Into Games](#)

[Digital Careers - Jobs - Game Design and Development](#)