

# Job of The Week

# Soldier

## Key Skills

- physical fitness and endurance
- the ability to work well with others in a team
- concentration skills and fast reactions
- active listening skills and the ability to follow instructions quickly
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- thinking and reasoning skills and the confidence to act quickly
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently

## Salary

£19,000- £36,000

## Working hours

Variable a week  
evenings / weekends  
bank holidays  
away from home

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# Soldier

## Restrictions and Requirements

You'll need to:

- meet the British army nationality and residency rules
- pass a fitness test
- pass a medical check
- pass security checks
- pass enhanced background checks

## Volunteering

You can join the Army Reserve to get experience of what life is like in the regular army. You'll also learn new skills at the same time.

You'll need to:

- be aged between 18 and 43
- commit to at least 27 days a year, though this can fall to 19, if you apply for a specialist unit
- attend a 2-week training camp each year

If you're between 12 and 18 years old, you can join the Army Cadet Force.

## Direct Application

You can apply directly to join the army. You do not need any specific qualifications unless you're applying for a technical role like engineering or communications.

You'll also need to be:

- aged between 16 and 36
- physically fit

If your application is accepted, you'll be invited to talk to someone at your local army careers centre about the opportunities available to you. You'll then attend a 2-day assessment, which includes medical and fitness tests.

## Apprenticeship

You can apply to join the army through an HM Forces Serviceperson Level 2 Intermediate Apprenticeship.

You apply directly to the army to find the best apprenticeship route for you. This will depend on your qualifications and which service role you're interested in, for example, engineering, health or logistics.

## Entry requirements

entry requirements vary

## Career path and progression

When you join the army, you sign up for 4 years. You can leave at any time after this as long as you give 12 months' notice. If you want to stay longer you can extend your contract.

Throughout your army career, you'll have the opportunity to gain qualifications in your chosen field. With experience you could move up through the ranks or into a specialist unit like the commandos or paratroopers. You could also train to become an officer.

## Day to Day tasks:

As a soldier, your duties will depend on your unit. You could:

- service and repair HGVs, Land Rovers, tanks and other armoured vehicles
- refuel and re-arm combat helicopters as part of an aviation groundcrew team
- set up communications links and conduct cyber warfare activities
- collect and analyse military intelligence to help plan operations
- support medical, veterinary or administrative services
- take part in training exercises, and humanitarian and combat operations

## Working conditions

You could work at a military base, be based overseas or in a warzone.

Your working environment may be physically and emotionally demanding and outdoors in all weathers.

You may need to wear protective clothing and a uniform.

# 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'.

## Security guards and related occupations

Weekly Pay <b>£550</b>	Annual Pay <b>£28,600</b>
Hours/Week <b>43h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£13</b>

### Workforce Change (projected)

Growth <b>0.3%</b>	Replacement <b>63.6%</b>
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The workforce is projected to grow by 0.3% over the period to 2027, creating 500 jobs.  
In the same period, 63.6% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 135,700 job openings.

You might find this job in  
Security, etc  
Employment activities  
Office admin.  
Retail trade  
Other professional

[More info](#)

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## Senior police officers

Weekly Pay <b>£1,310</b>	Annual Pay <b>£68,120</b>
Hours/Week <b>40h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£33</b>

### Workforce Change (projected)

Growth <b>3.4%</b>	Replacement <b>47.2%</b>
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The workforce is projected to grow by 3.4% over the period to 2027, creating 600 jobs.  
In the same period, 47.2% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 9,000 job openings.

You might find this job in  
Public admin. & defence

[More info](#)

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## Paramedics

Weekly Pay <b>£920</b>	Annual Pay <b>£47,840</b>
Hours/Week <b>38h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£24</b>

### Workforce Change (projected)

Growth <b>4%</b>	Replacement <b>48%</b>
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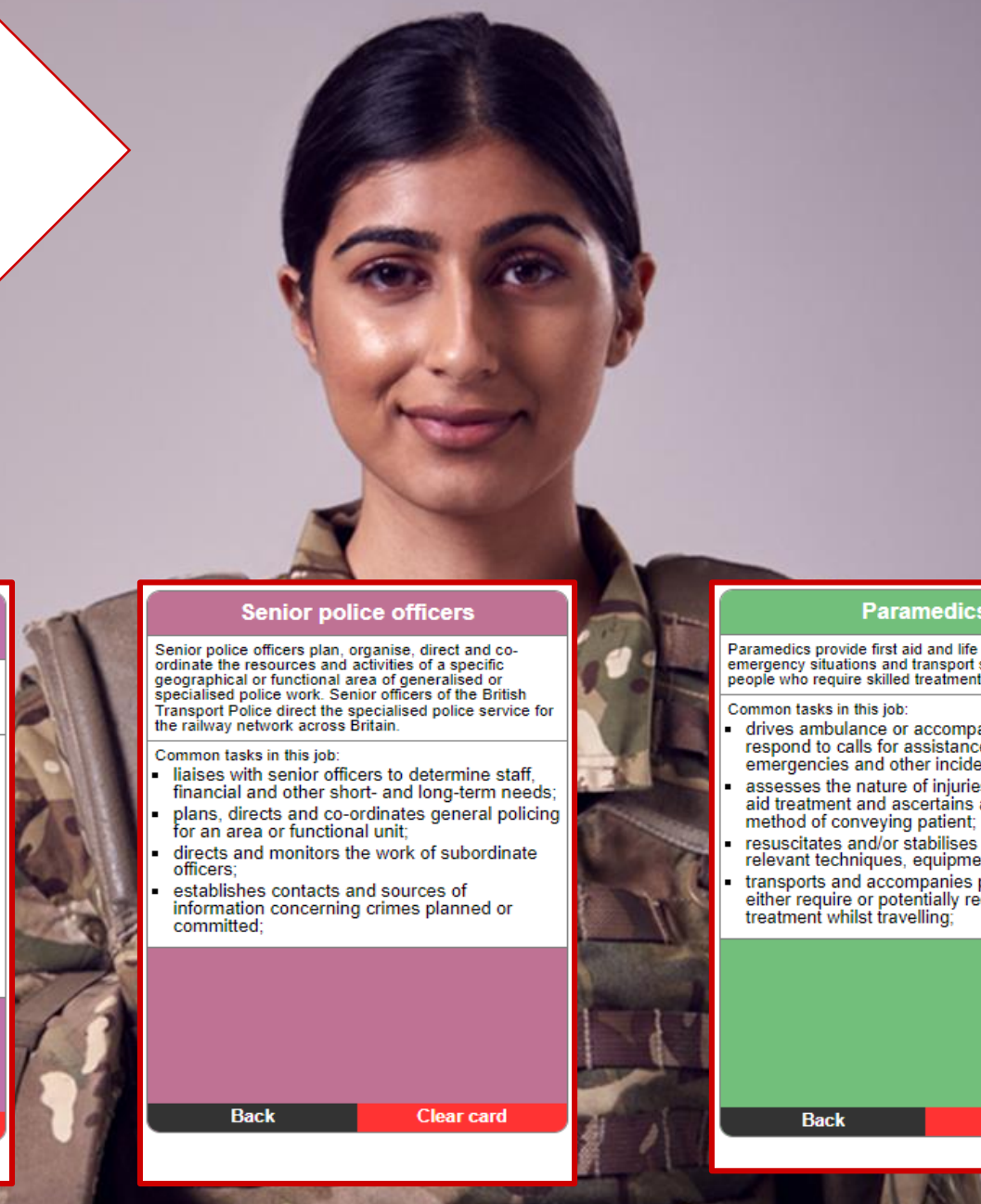
The workforce is projected to grow by 4% over the period to 2027, creating 1,300 jobs.  
In the same period, 48% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 16,000 job openings.

You might find this job in  
Health

[More info](#)

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# Labour Market Information



## Security guards and related occupations

Workers in this unit group protect merchandise, individuals, hotels, offices, factories, public grounds and private estates from injury, theft or damage, and investigate fraud and crime on a non-statutory basis.

Common tasks in this job:

- investigates crimes, trading practices and the private affairs of individuals;
- walks or rides near person requiring protection, watches for suspicious occurrences and defends guarded person from attack;
- monitors and patrols hotels, factories, offices and other premises, forests, parks, and public or private estates to prevent theft and unauthorised entry;
- checks persons and vehicles entering and leaving premises, establishes their credentials and arranges for escorts for visitors;

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## Senior police officers

Senior police officers plan, organise, direct and co-ordinate the resources and activities of a specific geographical or functional area of generalised or specialised police work. Senior officers of the British Transport Police direct the specialised police service for the railway network across Britain.

Common tasks in this job:

- liaises with senior officers to determine staff, financial and other short- and long-term needs;
- plans, directs and co-ordinates general policing for an area or functional unit;
- directs and monitors the work of subordinate officers;
- establishes contacts and sources of information concerning crimes planned or committed;

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## Paramedics

Paramedics provide first aid and life support treatment in emergency situations and transport sick and injured people who require skilled treatment.

Common tasks in this job:

- drives ambulance or accompanies driver to respond to calls for assistance at accidents, emergencies and other incidents;
- assesses the nature of injuries, provides first aid treatment and ascertains appropriate method of conveying patient;
- resuscitates and/or stabilises patient using relevant techniques, equipment and drugs;
- transports and accompanies patients who either require or potentially require skilled treatment whilst travelling;

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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...

What is it like at the Army  
Foundation College?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gpkb968kef4&pp=ygUuV2hhhdCBpcyBpdCBsaWtllGF0IHRob2ZSBbcm15lEZvdW5kYXRpb24gQ29sbGVnZT8%3D>

Junior Soldiers on exercise in  
Otterburn | British Army



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wbdmr\\_w350&pp=ygUYUYNpdGlzaCBzb2xkaWVylHRyYWlu\\_aW5n](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wbdmr_w350&pp=ygUYUYNpdGlzaCBzb2xkaWVylHRyYWlu_aW5n)

What happens when I go to  
an Army Careers Centre?



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TA5RwM\\_aNAU&pp=ygUhYSBkYXkgaW4gdGhllGxpZmUgb2YgYSBzb2xkaWVylHVr](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TA5RwM_aNAU&pp=ygUhYSBkYXkgaW4gdGhllGxpZmUgb2YgYSBzb2xkaWVylHVr)

Army Apprenticeships - Train  
and Learning



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1e3EKJSuUl&pp=ygU2QXJltsSBChByZW50aWNNlc2hpcHMgLSBT\\_a2lsbHMgYW5kIExlYXJuaW5nLC0gQXJltsSBk2Jz](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1e3EKJSuUl&pp=ygU2QXJltsSBChByZW50aWNNlc2hpcHMgLSBT_a2lsbHMgYW5kIExlYXJuaW5nLC0gQXJltsSBk2Jz)

## Useful Websites

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

[Learning and Development \(Apprenticeships\) | Regular Army \(mod.uk\)](#)

[The Army Reserve | The British Army \(mod.uk\)](#)

[Joining as a Soldier \(mod.uk\)](#)

[Fun, Friendship, Action And Adventure | Army Cadets UK](#)

[Uniformed Public Services Courses at Boston College](#)

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