

Careers in the defence industry – Fitting and Machining

Fitter and Machinists use a range of tools and engineering techniques to fit, assemble, maintain and repair mechanical plant machinery and equipment.

**DEFENCE
INDUSTRY** 
THE OTHER FORCE



Looking for an exciting and rewarding long term career?

Join the thousands of people using a different set of skills to supply and support our defence forces. WA's defence industry provides stable and local employment in defence related activities such as **ship and submarine building, maintenance and sustainment**.

To become a fitter and machinist you usually need to undertake an apprenticeship in engineering tradesperson mechanical (mechanical fitter). This apprenticeship usually takes between 42 and 48 months to complete, and is available as a school-based apprenticeship.

YOSHIKI BRINKWORTH

Apprentice Fitter and Machinist (2nd year)

PATHWAY: High school > Pre-apprenticeship
> Work experience > Apprenticeship

“ After high school I signed up for a pre-apprenticeship in fitting and machining, did some work experience and then secured an apprenticeship at an engineering company that supplies and provides engineering services to the Australian Defence Force.

I get to do a lot of manufacturing in steel, and work on anything mechanical that moves machinery. It's good that we **work** and manufacture **locally in Perth**. There are so many unique things that are made for the defence industry, it's not every day you see how submarines are made. You can say you had a part in making something big and that makes you feel **proud of yourself**. ”



CAREER SWITCHER...

ADAM LEESON

Apprentice Fitter and Machinist (2nd year)

PATHWAY: Pre-apprenticeship > Apprenticeship

“ After high school I had several jobs, I worked in factories and then construction where I worked as a labourer. I then worked as a rigger and crane operator for 12 years. The work was a bit unstable so I looked for other options.

I was interested in mechanics so I did a fitting and machining pre-apprenticeship at TAFE. I then secured an apprenticeship at an engineering company that supplies and provides engineering services to the Australian Defence Force.

I love learning **how machines work**. The best part of the defence industry is the **stability** as you are **guaranteed work**. ”



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MEM30205 Certificate III in Engineering - Mechanical Trade



KEY

LEVEL 01 – All job titles in Operations that require a skill level of year 10, a senior secondary certification of education, Certificate I or II. Australian apprenticeships may be offered at this level.

LEVEL 02 – All job titles in Operations that require a Certificate III or IV, or at least three years relevant experience. Australian apprenticeships may be offered at this level.

LEVEL 03 – All job titles in Operations that require a Diploma or Advanced Diploma. Study is often undertaken through TAFEs or Registered Training Organisations. Some universities offer studies at this level.

LEVEL 04 – All job titles in Operations that require a Bachelor Degree or higher qualification. Study is often undertaken at a university.

