

# Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters

SOC: 47-2152 • Career Profile Report

## ■ Key Facts

<b>\$62,970</b> Median Salary	<b>504,500</b> Employment	<b>+4.0%</b> Growth Rate
----------------------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------------

## ■ Requirements & Salary Range

**Education:** High school diploma

## ■ Automation Risk Assessment

**Medium Risk** - 35.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.  
This job has some routine elements but still requires human judgment and interaction.

## ■ Work-Life Balance

**5.1/10** - Fair work-life balance

## ■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

<b>Realistic</b>	9.4/10	<b>Investigative</b>	5.8/10
<b>Artistic</b>	4.0/10	<b>Social</b>	5.0/10
<b>Enterprising</b>	5.0/10	<b>Conventional</b>	6.0/10

## ■ Top Skills Required

Communication skills, Dexterity, Mechanical skills, Physical strength, Troubleshooting skills

### ✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

### ■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

## ■ What They Do

Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters typically perform the following tasks:

- Shut off steam, water, or other gases or liquids from pipe sections, using valve keys or wrenches.
- Install underground storm, sanitary, or water piping systems, extending piping as needed to connect fixtures and plumbing.
- Assemble pipe sections, tubing, or fittings, using couplings, clamps, screws, bolts, cement, plastic solvent, caulking, or soldering, brazing, or welding equipment.
- Locate and mark the position of pipe installations, connections, passage holes, or fixtures in structures, using measuring instruments such as rulers or levels.
- Cut, thread, or hammer pipes to specifications, using tools such as saws, cutting torches, pipe threaders, or pipe benders.
- Lay out full scale drawings of pipe systems, supports, or related equipment, according to blueprints.
- Plan pipe system layout, installation, or repair, according to specifications.
- Review blueprints, building codes, or specifications to determine work details or procedures.
- Select pipe sizes, types, or related materials, such as supports, hangers, or hydraulic cylinders, according to specifications.
- Fill pipes or plumbing fixtures with water or air and observe pressure gauges to detect and locate leaks.
- Direct helpers engaged in pipe cutting, preassembly, or installation of plumbing systems or components.
- Inspect, examine, or test installed systems or pipe lines, using pressure gauge, hydrostatic testing, observation, or other methods.
- Install pipe assemblies, fittings, valves, appliances such as dishwashers or water heaters, or fixtures such as sinks or toilets, using hand or power tools.
- Anchor steel supports from ceiling joists to hold pipes in place.
- Attach pipes to walls, structures, or fixtures, such as radiators or tanks, using brackets, clamps, tools, or welding equipment.
- Modify, clean, or maintain pipe systems, units, fittings, or related machines or equipment, using hand or power tools.
- Install automatic controls to regulate pipe systems.
- Estimate time, material, or labor costs for use in project plans.
- Keep records of work assignments.
- Inspect structures to assess material or equipment needs, to establish the sequence of pipe installations, or to plan installation around obstructions, such as electrical wiring.

---

*Generated by StartRight • Data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics & O\*NET*

Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/plumbers-pipefitters-and-steamfitters.htm>