

Small Engine Mechanics

SOC: 49-3050 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$48,240 Median Salary	78,000 Employment	+4.0% Growth Rate
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■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: See Requirements (BLS)

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Low Risk - 25.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.
This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

■ Work-Life Balance

6.4/10 - Good work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	8.8/10	Investigative	7.4/10
Artistic	4.4/10	Social	5.6/10
Enterprising	4.6/10	Conventional	6.4/10

■ Top Skills Required

Customer-service skills, Detail oriented, Dexterity, Mechanical skills, Organizational skills, Troubleshooting skills

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Small Engine Mechanics typically perform the following tasks:

- Record repairs made, time spent, and parts used.
- Test and inspect engines to determine malfunctions, to locate missing and broken parts, and to verify repairs, using diagnostic instruments.
- Dismantle engines, using hand tools, and examine parts for defects.
- Repair and maintain gasoline engines used to power equipment such as portable saws, lawn mowers, generators, and compressors.
- Adjust points, valves, carburetors, distributors, and spark plug gaps, using feeler gauges.
- Repair or replace defective parts such as magnetos, water pumps, gears, pistons, and carburetors, using hand tools.
- Perform routine maintenance such as cleaning and oiling parts, honing cylinders, and tuning ignition systems.
- Reassemble engines after repair or maintenance work is complete.
- Replace motors.
- Obtain problem descriptions from customers, and prepare cost estimates for repairs.
- Show customers how to maintain equipment.
- Remove engines from equipment, and position and bolt engines to repair stands.
- Sell parts and equipment.
- Grind, ream, rebore, and re-tap parts to obtain specified clearances, using grinders, lathes, taps, reamers, boring machines, and micrometers.