

Exploring Careers Through **Technical** Routes

HGV driving



The Industry

Do you like driving, travelling around the country and working on your own work? Work as an HGV driver for a manufacturer, a distributor or a road haulage firm driving commercial vehicles over 7.5 tonnes including articulated lorries, tankers, transporters and trailer wagons. You could work from depots, distribution centres or warehouses picking up and dropping off deliveries to businesses, factories, shops or restaurants.

Apart from driving your duties may include: maintaining your vehicle; adhering to health, safety and security procedures; assessing your vehicle for safety and general faults; planning delivery schedules and routes with transport managers; supervising/loading/unloading goods onto vehicles safely; ensuring goods are secured and transited safely; reporting breakdowns or traffic delays to a dispatcher; navigating to destinations; completing delivery paperwork and log books.

Skills for Logistics <http://www.skillsforlogistics.co.uk>
The Road Haulage Association <https://www.rha.uk>
Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in the UK
<https://www.ciltuk.org.uk/Careers/CareersInformation/CareerProfiles/LGVDriving.aspx>

Skills and Requirements

You must be over 18 and hold a full car driving licence. Other knowledge and skills required include:

- A good geographical knowledge of the UK/region
- Ability to liaise well with customers and staff
- Knowledge of tachograph legislation and Transport Working Time Regulations
- Reliability, honesty, trustworthy and hardworking
- Good timekeeping and planning skills
- The ability to complete record sheets and paperwork accurately
- Good numeracy and literacy skills
- Willingness to work alone and concentrate for long periods of time even when under pressure
- A keen awareness of health and safety issues and rules of the road e.g. highway code
- IT for operating in-cab technology
- Flexibility as hours can be anti social with overnight stays in the cab
- Physically fit with good eyesight and colour vision
- Driver Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC)
- Basic motor maintenance would also be useful

The road haulage sector is the single largest segment of the logistics industry and estimated to be worth £42bn a year. One fifth of the current LGV workforce will reach retirement age in the next 10 years which is approximately 75,000 drivers.

Source: <https://theloadstar.co.uk/party-parliamentary-freight-group-hgv-driver-shortage-crisis/>

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Working and Learning in HGV driving



Job Roles & Progression

Study Programme

Levels 2 and 3
Heavy Vehicle Maintenance & Repair Competence



Further Study

Initial Driver CPC
theory and hazard awareness
case study questions and answers
practical driving test
practical demonstration test



Apprenticeships

Level 2
Primary Transport
Driving Goods Vehicles

Supply Chain Specialist Large Goods Vehicle (LGV) Driver

Level 3
Driving Goods Vehicles



Career Roles

Advisory Dangerous Goods by Road Certificate (ADR) to drive hazardous goods e.g. toxic chemicals by tanker

LGV instructor
Freight transport planner
Operations manager
Distribution manager

Calculation including problem solving

Tasks

1. Plot the route and calculate your mileage for a journey from the depot to five customers and back.
2. Estimate the amount of foreign currency you need to take to fill your tank at an overseas drop for your return journey to the UK.
3. Work out the probability of a traffic jam on a motorway based on previous data to use the quickest route to your destination.
4. Calculate the weight of your cargo to decide on the best way of loading.
5. Check your weekly pay slip for accuracy.

Links to GCSE Maths

1. **Number** (whole numbers - addition; decimals - adding decimals)
Geometry and measure (units of measure - using standard units)
2. **Number** (approximation - estimating calculations, rounding to decimal places)
Geometry and measure (units of measure - using standard units; speed)
3. **Probability** (finding probability)
4. **Number** (whole numbers - division)
Geometry and measure (units of measure - density)
5. **Number** (Financial mathematics - wages and salaries)

Communication, all forms

Tasks

1. Report a breakdown to your transport manager.
2. Ensure the customer is happy with their delivery on drop off.
3. Complete a job record following your week of travel.
4. Assess your truck before a journey in terms of safety and general faults and record this on your vehicle maintenance log.
5. Read the manual for a new cab radio to ensure you can operate it accurately.

Links to GCSE English Language

1. **Spoken language** (speaking and listening - audience and purpose)
2. **Spoken language** (audience and purpose; personal presence; voice)
3. **Writing** (writing non-fiction - writing a report; literary techniques - informative language; vocabulary - use precise verbs)
4. **Writing** (context, audience, purpose; writing non-fiction - writing a report; expanding your vocabulary)
5. **Analysing non-fiction** (non-fiction text type - manual, information; responding to a non-fiction text - understanding)