



Machinists produce precision parts and instruments out of metal.

Good machinists are analytical, attentive to detail and can work independently.

Also known as:

CNC Machinist, Manual Machinist

About the Machinist Job

Use of Technology

- Computer Numerical Controlled (CNC) machines
- Computer-aided design
- Manufacturing Software

Work Environment

Factories and shop floors

Check out this [YouTube](#) video to learn more!



Day-to-Day Tasks

Operate machines and tools to produce precision metal parts, instruments and tools; read blueprints and specs; set up machines



Skills + Knowledge

Solve problems, safely use tools, computers, mechanics, apply math and measure



Related Careers

Tool & Die Maker, CNC Programmer, and Industrial Mechanic

The Machinist Job Market

Annual demand/job outlook

- 760 new machinists needed this year

Apprenticeships in WA:

- www.coeaerospace.com/apprenticeships

Compensation

- Entry level - \$50,400
- Average - \$70,200
- Experienced - \$80,100

Job posting snapshot

- 559 job ads in WA in 2025



Training is available at a [Washington Community or Technical College](#) near you.