

Career Options in Robotics

There are lots of ways to get into robotics. The most important thing is to find a STEM career that interests you! Engineering is a great place to start. There are so many types of engineers and they all work together: It's a team sport!

Career Options

It takes more than one type of engineer to build a robot. There are mechanical, electrical, software, systems, manufacturing and many more. The cool part of engineering is how many different things you can do.

You can also find a lot of other careers at a tech company too. There may be lawyers, accountants, web designers, photographers and writers. Learn more about those jobs [here](#).

Job Duties

Robots do dull, dirty and dangerous tasks. A robot's biggest task is helping people. Across the industry, they help in factories, in the home, on the battlefield and many other places. As an engineer in robotics, you may be designing artificial limbs, grippers for a manufacturing robot or wheels for a robotic car.

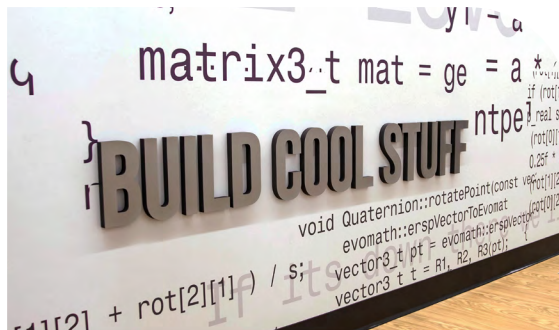
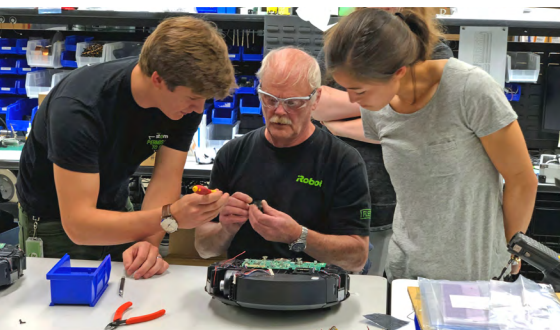
Employment Outlook

STEM jobs continue to grow at a faster rate than non-STEM jobs. Starting salaries for those with a STEM degree average around \$68,000 according to a Pew Research Study. This compares to around \$50,000 for those with a bachelors in arts and humanities.

What to Do

Think about what you enjoy. Research the different kinds of engineering or professions and consider what you like doing. Then, start thinking about what sort of school you might like: big, small, suburban, or near home. Finally, you may change your mind, so think about schools with a variety of classes.

If you can, see if the school allows you to participate in an internship, which will get you real life experience and test out if you like your chosen field. And remember, you will still need liberal arts: writing, presenting, speaking and even drawing or photography, to present your ideas in engineering. But mostly — have fun!



Types of Engineering

While some schools offer “robotics engineering,” many of those working in robotics have earned a degree in something else. These are some of the many different careers available to you, all of which could lead to working with robots! Remember engineering is a team profession: many people come together to make a project a success.

Mechanical



Like to take things apart? See how they work? Or make it work better? Mechanical Engineers work to make physical parts, machinery, engines and pretty much all the things you see around you.

They may use desktop 3D printers to make a prototype or maybe work with a huge jet turbine. It's a very diverse field and allows a lot of room to try different things.

Electrical



How does it get its power? What makes it go? How does it get information or use its sensors? Those are some of the things Electrical Engineers think about. They design circuits, work in power plants and solve problems in communications.

As we rely more on the Internet of Things (IoT), electrical engineers are busier and busier. In addition, there is electro-mechanical, combining electrical and mechanical engineering!

Civil



Think about how you got to school this morning. You were on roads, and maybe had a drink of water. On the way home, you may spend some time at the local park. All of that is part of Civil Engineering.

Civil Engineers design and manage the construction of highways, railways, airports, harbors, bridges and buildings.



Software



Computers, tablets, phones, cars, dishwashers, thermostats, vacuums: all are computers. Software engineers give them a brain, programming the information for the device to use. Sometimes they build the actual hardware on the device.

Many develop apps for mobile devices to control everyday objects. Software is a fast growing field, and one guaranteed to continue to grow.

Systems



Do you like to organize projects and people? Are you good at keeping things on track and making sure everyone knows what is going on? Systems Engineering is one of the more "people" friendly of the engineering.

The Systems Engineer takes all the parts of the engineering team and coordinates them. Systems Engineering often means collaborating across different engineering teams.

Data Analytics



One of the newer fields, this career is great if you love math, but also love to see what numbers actually mean. They are analyzing data for trends and for how they can help a product improve. It's one of the cool ways to see how all those math classes make sense!

Learn More

These aren't the only careers in a tech company. Check out our [other career sheet](#) and the iRobot Careers website for more information.

irobot.com/careers

