



Job Situation

Component assembly line in large factory. Very structured, routine. Reporting to Supervisor.

Weekly Hours of Work

40

Overtime

As required

Monthly Salary

\$2,800

Student Loan – Owing

Student Loan – Monthly Payment

Duties

Solder components. Assemble circuit boards. Maintain cleanroom procedures. Assemble microcircuits. Assemble and finish details on components.

Prospects

Specialization. Microelectronics. Robotics.

Job Title

Electronics Production Worker

National Occupational Classification (NOC)

9483

Job Description

When a Production Worker first starts a job in electronics assembly, there's a lot to learn. For a start there is a whole new vocabulary to digest—resistors, diodes, transistors, capacitors and integrated circuits may all be foreign to you at first, but not for long. On-the-job training is provided because every factory and every production line is different. Most workers start out under close supervision, using small hand tools to attach circuit boards and wire harnesses and mechanical components to a framework. Pop on the cover and put in the screws, and “presto!”—a stereo amplifier!

Except that it's not exactly “presto,” as you find out when you learn the more exacting task of soldering the tiny electronic components and wires onto the precisely marked circuit boards. This requires fine motor control, a light touch and concentration, but if you have the knack your hands can do most of the work while your mind wanders a little. But not too much—every piece you do has your number on it. The quality control people will speak to your supervisor if you mess up more than once in a while.

Because you have demonstrated an ability for fine work, the company has decided to train you in cleanroom procedures and taught you to assemble microcircuits under a microscope. You have shown responsibility and integrity. This work is not for everyone, but you like the clean, relatively quiet atmosphere and find that concentration on the task makes time pass quickly. There are also jobs operating process equipment to fabricate, solder, seal, and stamp the tiny electrical components that were such mysteries to you when you started out.

Electronics is a growing field, constantly stimulated by advances in technology. If you have fine hand control and like a structured environment, you can specialize more and earn very good wages at the cutting edge of the electronics industry.