


# Drone Engineers

## Overview




### Introduction

*Drone engineers* develop drones based on their knowledge of different branches of engineering, such as aeronautical, electronics and electrical, mechanical, and robotics engineering. Also known as unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), drones may be used for commercial, consumer, or combat purposes. For example, they may be used to survey damage after natural disasters like hurricanes and floods, gather military intelligence, survey land for real estate and construction purposes, and collect information on crops and endangered species. Man...


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### Quick Facts




Median Salary

\$100,000




Employment Prospects

Good



Minimum Education Level


Bachelor's Degree



Experience

Two to three years


+



Skills

Computer

+



Personality Traits

Conventional

+

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### Earnings

Many drone engineers have educational backgrounds in electrical, electronics, mechanical, software, hardware, and industrial engineering. The U.S. Department of Labor reports that engineers in these disciplines earned the following salaries in May 2018.

- Electrical Engineers: \$61,190 to \$153,240+
- Electronics Engineers: \$64,840 to \$162,200+
- Hardware Engineers: \$66,...

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# Work Environment

Drone engineers work indoors in offices and may travel at times to indoor and outdoor worksites to check and test equipment. Travel may also be required for meetings. Drone engineers often work more than 40 hours per week. They work independently and on teams with other engineers, engineering technicians, and others involved in their projects. This career can be stressful, especially when under...

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# Outlook

The unmanned aircraft systems industry continues to grow and drone engineers will be needed by various industries to meet increasing demand for drones. More consumers are buying and using small drones, and the commercial use of unmanned aircraft systems is also expected to continue growing. Of the three main segments for drones (military, civilian, and commercial), the commercial segment is exp...

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