

GLOWING IN TECH

Top 5 career switching
paths into tech



There has never been a better time to start a career in tech!

The tech industry is booming with no signs of slowing down. There are some amazing opportunities within the sector which are in growing in demand and accelerating in pay.

Code is incredible!

Our everyday lives are increasingly shaped and transformed by tech - shopping, dating, banking, work, entertainment, talking to friends. Anything we do via our phones, laptops and the internet is made possible through code.



Learning to code will:

- equip you with the power to build exciting products
- enable you to career switch and become a highly sought after software engineer
- transform your life! Software engineering is the highest paying remote-working role across the world*
- secure stability with a future proof career
- build a healthy work-life balance

When you learn to code, the opportunities are endless!

How much coding experience do I need?

You don't need a computer science degree to launch a career in tech anymore. You can career switch anytime. However, you must be able to demonstrate that you're serious about a career switch into tech and that coding is something you have an appetite for. If you are just starting to flirt with the idea of coding then [Code Academy](#) is a great place to start. We recommend (if you are a beginner) that you take a look at their resources and try your hand at writing some code so you can get a feel for if coding is right for you. Your practice will also help you apply for training courses and apprenticeships.

Our top 5 routes into tech

01 Free Skills bootcamps

Skills Bootcamps are free, flexible courses of up to 16 weeks for adults aged 19 or over. They give people the opportunity to build up valuable sector-specific skills based on local employer demand and provide a direct path to a job on completion. These courses are totally free.

There are some amazing skills bootcamps across the country in software development, cybersecurity, data and cloud. These courses run throughout the year. For a full list check here:

- [London](#)
- [East of England](#)
- [North East of England](#)
- [North West of England](#)
- [South East of England](#)
- [South West of England](#)
- [West Midlands](#)
- [East Midlands](#)
- [Yorkshire](#)



02 Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are a great way to career switch into tech as they allow you to earn and learn at the same time. People often think apprenticeships are just for school leavers but that is not the case. The average age for a tech apprentice is actually mid- late 20's. Tech apprenticeships are also one of the highest paying apprenticeships. An apprenticeship lasts 2 years after which you will gain an accredited certification.

There are lots of companies offering tech apprenticeships, however there are 1000's of applicants so competition is fierce. We strongly suggest building some basic coding awareness and skills before applying to give yourself a bit of a head start and make your applications glow.

The best place to find open apprenticeships is on UK jobs boards and also following some of the leading training providers that partner with employers to provide these opportunities.

These include: [Makers](#), [QA](#), and [Multiverse](#)



03 Coding community groups

There are many organisations out there that provide free training, community support and job opportunities for those wanting to career switch into tech. There are a great place to gain support, training and advice wrapped in one. You will also make some amazing friends for life at their networking events. Many also have scholarship schemes with bootcamp training providers that you can apply for. For example Coding Black females partners with Makers every year and to offer members of their community free training on their bootcamp that is usually £8,500.

Two communities we highly recommend you check out are:

- 1) [Coding Black Females](#)
- 2) [Code First Girls](#)
- 3) [Women in Devops](#)
- 4) [Codebar](#)
- 5) [Black girls in tech](#)
- 6) [Generation](#)

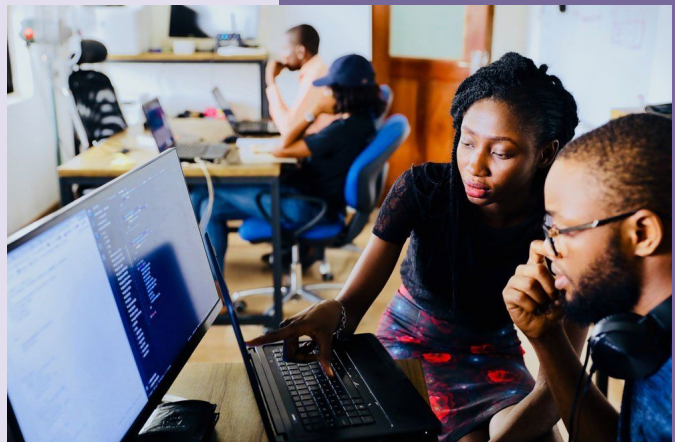


04 Coding bootcamps

You can now train to become a software developer in 16 weeks via a coding bootcamp. Many run remote fulltime and part-time courses all year round so you can start your career switch as soon as you are ready. These bootcamp providers also have great connections with employers so finding a role after the course will be well supported. Coding bootcamps are not cheap and its important to go to one with a stellar reputation and curriculum. They can cost around £8,000 + which is quite a dent in the bank account, however many now have finance partners that allow you to pay a small deposit and then pay back the rest once you have secured a job with monthly payments - very much like a traditional student loan.

Some coding bootcamps we recommend you check out are:

- [Makers](#)
- [Le Wagon](#)
- [Ironhack](#)
- [General Assembly](#)
- [Brainstation](#)
- [Boolean](#)
- [Northcoders](#)
- [Eyup](#)



05 Transition internally from a non-technical role

All companies are in need of tech talent. There could be internal career switching paths within your existing company that you can explore. Working somewhere that recognises your transferable skills and has the teams and resources in place to support you moving into an engineering role can be a great route into tech.

Have a look at non-technical roles, specifically within teams that work closely with engineers, so you can spend time understanding what's required, and how the engineers work.

Having the understanding of a tech product, their offerings, and their customers, can be a massive benefit for you when looking for your first technical role. You'll be able to advocate for the customer even in your early engineering days, where you might otherwise struggle to find ways to contribute as you're learning.

Some companies even offer programmes and courses which will allow you to study alongside your full time role.

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For more tips, tricks and advice on how to get into tech and career switching opportunities, follow us on [LinkedIn](#)



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