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What skills and abilities are required?

Guide to Sheet Metal Working



To be successful in this trade, Mlungisi, you will need:

- Good oral communication skills
- Physical strength and stamina
- Good eye-hand coordination and manual dexterity
- Good problem-solving skills
- Ability to work independently or as part of a team
- Ability to read blueprints and technical specifications
- Ability to operate power tools and equipment
- Knowledge of safe operating procedures

Once you have obtained a qualification and the relevant skills in this trade, you have CHOICES!

You can either find employment.
OR
Start your own business.

For more information, please contact the merSETA Call Centre on **086 163 7738**

For additional Support, you may also visit: **NYDA** www.nyda.gov.za



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Guide to Sheet Metal Working



An essential guide showing learners how to prepare for their chosen careers

LEADERS IN CLOSING THE SKILLS GAP

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What do Sheet Metal Workers do?

Guide to Sheet Metal Working



Sheet metal workers mark out, shape, form and join sheet metal and other materials to make products or components. Sheet metal workers fabricate, assemble, install and repair sheet metal products. They are employed by sheet metal fabrication shops, sheet metal products manufacturing companies, sheet metal work contractors and various industrial sectors

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What duties and tasks will I have to perform, Mr. Naidoo?

Guide to
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Working



- Marking out stock with reference points and lines, using templates, gauges and other measuring instruments
- Cutting material along guidelines using hand or power shears, guillotines or drills
- Read engineering and architectural drawings, sketches and work specifications to be performed, and lay out, measure and mark sheet metal according to drawings or templates
- Develop patterns for sheet metal using computer-assisted design and drafting (CAD) software packages
- Operate light metalworking machines such as shears, brakes, punches, and drill presses, including computer numerical control (CNC) equipment to cut, bend, punch, drill, shape or straighten sheet metal
- Operate computerised laser or plasma cutting equipment to cut sheet metal
- Install and use rigging and hoisting equipment
- Fit and join sheet metal parts using riveting, welding, soldering and similar equipment to fabricate products such as ventilation shafts, exhaust hoods, partition frames, air and heat ducts, material handling systems, roof decking and sheet metal buildings
- Shape and form cut material into products using folding or bending machines, rollers, presses or hammers
- Install sheet metal products according to specifications and building codes
- Grind and buff seams, joints and rough surfaces
- Inspect product quality and installation to ensure conformance to specifications

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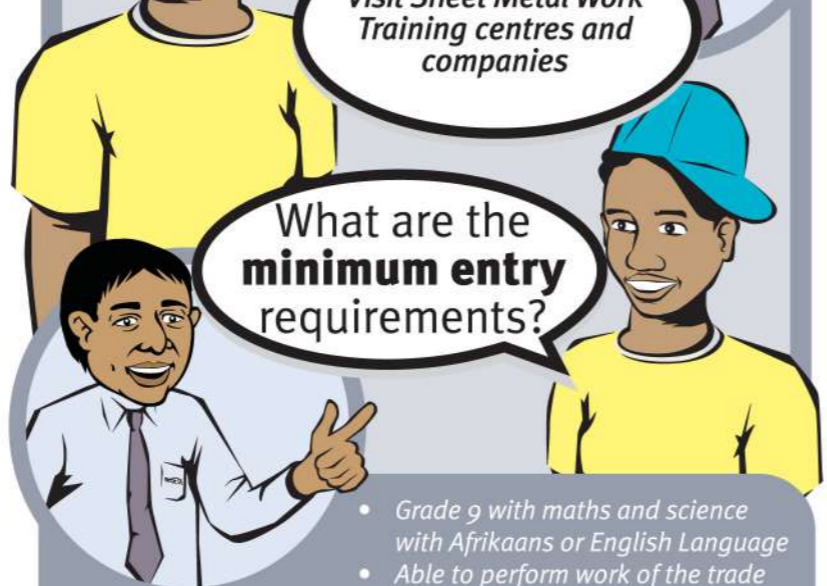
What can I do to get myself involved before leaving school?

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Visit Sheet Metal Work Training centres and companies

What are the **minimum entry requirements?**



- Grade 9 with maths and science with Afrikaans or English Language
 - Able to perform work of the trade
 - At least 16 years old
- NOTE: Some companies set higher entry requirements

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Mr. Naidoo, how do I apply for training?

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Apprenticeships/Learnerships Offered

Check for advertisements for apprenticeships and learnerships

- Identify your area of interest
- Compile your CV
- Check for advertisements for apprenticeship/learnership opportunities in newspapers or register on relevant database
- After finding an advertised opportunity, familiarise yourself with the company
- Send your application and prepare for interview if short listed

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What are the working conditions like, Mr. Naidoo?

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Sheet metal workers may work in shops doing fabrication or out on construction sites doing installation

You need to be able to work at heights as well as in enclosed spaces and in varying weather conditions.

Physical stamina is required as the work can involve kneeling, bending, standing for long periods, reaching and heavy lifting.