# **Job title: Beekeeper**

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| **Job title: Beekeeper**  Apiarist, apiculturist | Beekeepers manage colonies of honeybees kept in hives to produce honey, beeswax and royal jelly. |
| **Entry requirements:** | You could do a college course, which would teach you some of the skills you need to do this job. Relevant subjects include a Level 1 Award in Introduction to Beekeeping.  Entry requirements  You'll usually need:   * 2 or fewer GCSEs at grades 3 to 1 (D to G) for a level 1 course   You can keep bees as a hobby and learn how to successfully set up and manage healthy colonies of honeybees.  You can also join a beekeeping group where you'll learn from experienced beekeepers, and work towards qualifications offered by The British Beekeepers Association. |
| **Skills required:** | You'll need:   * the ability to work well with others * to be thorough and pay attention to detail * physical skills like movement, coordination, dexterity and grace * excellent verbal communication skills * thinking and reasoning skills * the ability to work on your own * patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations * the ability to work well with your hands * to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device |
| **What you'll do:** | Your day-to-day duties may include:   * building, inspecting or repairing hives * introducing a new colony or maintaining an existing one * feeding or checking the health of your bees * monitoring the size of your colony and amount of honey produced * treating your hive and bees to fight disease and pests * collecting honey from hives * preparing and bottling honey * marketing honey and products like beeswax * mentoring or training new beekeepers, once experienced * breeding queen bees and smaller, starter or 'nucleus' bee colonies |
| **What you’ll earn:** | Variable Salary |
| **Working hours, patterns and environment:** | * 41 to 43 hours per week * Freelance/ Self Employed |
| **Career path and progression:** | With experience, you could move into commercial beekeeping and develop more hives over a wider area.   You could also train new beekeepers. |

