

# Jeweller

Make, repair and set fine jewellery. A bench trade learned in college or under a goldsmith, with a slow climb to your own shop.

## TYPICAL PAY

**\$47,000**

a year, full time

## PAY RANGE

**\$33k to \$75k**

starting to experienced

## TIME TO QUALIFY

**2 to 5 years**

after high school

## DEMAND

**Moderate**

job outlook

## LICENCE NEEDED

**No**

anyone can do it

## WHERE YOU WORK

**Jewellery stores, repair benches, manufacturers, your own studio**

## How you get there

- 1 High school** Grades 10 to 12  
Art, metalwork or tech classes. Any small, careful handwork helps.
- 2 Jewellery program or apprenticeship** 1 to 3 years  
Public colleges in Toronto, Vancouver, Halifax and Calgary run jewellery arts programs from 1 to 3 years. Or find a goldsmith who will train you at the bench.
- 3 Junior bench** 1 to 2 years  
Sizing, soldering, polishing, chain repair. Speed and cleanliness come with volume.
- 4 Stone setting and custom work** 2 to 5 years  
Prong, bezel, pave and channel setting. The skill that raises your pay most.
- 5 Gemmology (optional)** 1 to 2 years part time  
The Canadian Gemmological Association's FCGmA (Fellow of the Canadian Gemmological Association) diploma trains you to identify and grade stones.

## Pros and cons

- + Skilled, creative craft with real objects
- + Seated, indoor, quiet work
- + Can own a studio or a brand
- Low starting pay and slow climb
- Eye strain and hand fatigue
- Small field, fewer job openings outside big cities

## Good to know

### Ontario has a goldsmith trade

Gemsetter/Goldsmith is a voluntary apprenticeship trade through Skilled Trades Ontario. You can work without it, but it is one of the few formal credentials for the bench in Canada.

### Canada mines diamonds

The Northwest Territories has produced diamonds since the Ekati mine opened in 1998. Some Canadian jewellers market stones laser-inscribed with their Canadian origin.

## Optional boosts

Stone setting. CAD (computer-aided design) and 3D printing. Gemmology. Accredited appraiser.

### Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Jeweller, wages (updated Nov 2025)  
Job Bank: Jeweller, employment requirements  
Canadian Gemmological Association  
Canadian Jewellers Association

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in Canadian dollars, based on Government of Canada Job Bank wage data and published salary grids. They vary by province, employer and experience. Tuition is for domestic students. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/ca/careers/jeweller>



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