

Facts, figures and where to find out more

If you love music, there are all sorts of ways you can make a living from it – whether that's full or part-time.

Most musicians know that getting a record deal isn't the only route into the industry. Instead, they earn money in a variety of ways.

And if you don't want to be a musician, there are many other options you could consider.

In fact, it's likely that you'll end up doing several of these things, in what's known as a 'portfolio career'.

How could I earn money as a musician?



How else might I earn money in the music industry?



Where could I work?

Anywhere! Nowadays, you don't have to head to London. In fact, many people are creating and growing their own regional music businesses and communities. And high speed broadband makes it even easier to work from any location.



MYTHS BUSTED

It's a risky business: there's no future in it

- Actually, following a dip in the numbers caused by the pandemic, the music industry in the UK is now growing rapidly again.
- UK music industry's contribution to the UK economy in 2021 was **£4 billion**
- Employment in the music industry rose to **145,000 jobs** in 2021
- Exports in the sector rose in 2021 to **£2.5 billion**

You need a record deal or you'll never make any money

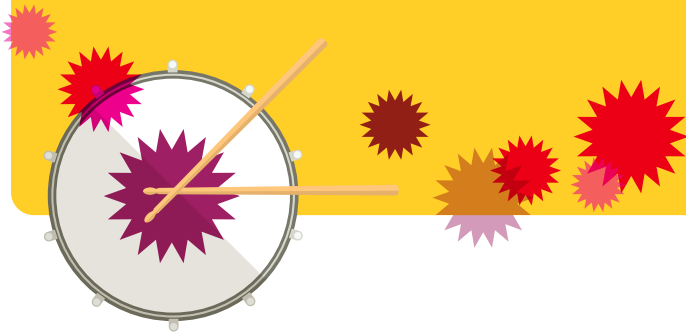
More and more musicians are taking their careers into their own hands, by recording and producing their own music, streaming and sharing their work and booking their own gigs. Many supplement this income with other jobs in the industry too.

There's no solid training pathway

Nowadays, there are apprenticeships, internships, qualifications, and training (including online) for a variety of careers in the industry – see below.

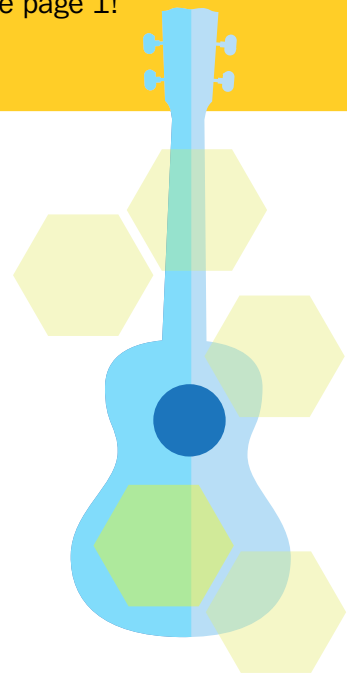
You're limiting your options going into such a narrow field

The music industry provides a wide range of potential careers – see page 1!



Where can I find out more?

- The UK Music Careers Information Pack
- Musicians Union
- Creative careers & training information
- Apprenticeships
- Vocational training
- Online business/marketing training for musicians
- Music teaching, community music, youth music



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This resource was originally devised by Wiltshire Music Connect (Wiltshire Council) during its tenure as the Music Education Hub for Wiltshire.

Wiltshire Council

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