What I do every day:

- Maintain or repair the operating condition of industrial production or processing machinery and equipment
- Replace broken components of machinery or equipment
- Disassemble machinery or equipment to remove parts and make repairs
- Observe and test the operation of machinery or equipment to diagnose malfunctions, using voltmeters or other testing devices
- Reassemble equipment after completion of inspections, testing or repairs
- Clean, lubricate or adjust parts, equipment or machinery
- Examine parts for defects, such as breakage or excessive wear
- Operate newly repaired machinery or equipment to verify the adequacy of repairs
- Evaluate test results, machine error messages, or information obtained from operators to identify equipment problems
- Record parts or materials used and order and requisition new parts or materials

What makes my job Great?

Job growth:
Employment of industrial machinery mechanics and maintenance workers is projected to grow 17 percent from 2012 to 2022. This is due to the need to keep increasingly sophisticated machinery functioning and efficient.

Short-term training:
Employers of industrial machinery mechanics and maintenance workers generally require them to have at least a high school diploma or a General Educational Development (GED) certificate. However, employers increasingly prefer to hire workers with some education in industrial technology from a community or technical college.

Good pay:
The median salary is $44,000 per year. (That means 50 percent earn less than this and the other 50 percent earn more.)

Benefits:
Most mechanics work full time with benefits that may include:

- Paid vacation
- Healthcare
- Tuition reimbursement
How can you become an industrial machinery mechanic?

**Academic/training credentials:**
A high school diploma is required and additional training/technical skills are usually needed as well.

While it is not required to gain certification in this field to obtain a job, there are many more job opportunities for those who hold certifications.

**Work experience/internships:**
Experience is not required for entry-level positions. Many employers have on-the-job training programs, providing non-experienced new hires the opportunity to combine their existing skills with new ones required for specific equipment.

**Skills and requirements:**
- Strong problem-solving skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Troubleshooting skills
- Computer knowledge
- Understanding of pneumatics, hydraulics and mechanical systems
- Strong project management skills

**Where you can find jobs:**
- Online job boards
- Temporary employment services
- Career fairs
- Networking
- Social Media
- Department of Career Services at colleges

**Potential job titles:**
- Industrial machinery mechanic
- Industrial mechanic
- Machine adjuster
- Maintenance mechanic
- Maintenance technician
- Master mechanic
- Mechanic
- Overhauler

**Potential local employers:**
- Avery Dennison
- Component Repair Technologies
- Fredon Corporation
- Jergens Inc.
- Lubrizol
- Swagelok
Local educational opportunities

Two-year institutions:

- Lakeland Community College: Associate of Applied Science-Computer Integrated Manufacturing Technology (maintenance and repair concentration)
  - Tool room/maintenance machinist apprentice certificate
  
- Cuyahoga Community College: Associate of Applied Science in Manufacturing Industrial Engineering Technology
  - Machine tools certificate

Four-year institutions:

- University of Akron: Bachelor of Science in Automated Manufacturing Engineering Technology

High School Tech Prep:

- A-TECH: precision machining program
- Auburn Career Center: advanced manufacturing program
- Lake Shore Compact: CNC manufacturing technology program
- Excel TECC: CADD engineering technology program
- Contact your high school guidance office

Technical schools/certificate programs:

- Auburn Career Center: industrial maintenance certificate program
- A-TECH: industrial maintenance certificate program

Coursework per educational entity:

Secondary pathway: Manufacturing Operations

Postsecondary program: Manufacturing; Maintenance and Repair

An Example of Course with Secondary and Postsecondary Credits
How can I grow my career?

Some mechanics complete a 2-year associate degree program in industrial maintenance. Others may start in other factory jobs and learn the skills of the trade on the job, or take courses offered through their employer.

Where could I focus or specialize in my career?

- Production worker
- Machinist
- Welder
- Industrial maintenance worker
- Quality technician
- Materials handling specialist
- Maintenance supervisor
- Safety, security and compliance officer
- Facilities manager
- Plant superintendent
- Industrial or manufacturing engineer

The career ladder

Pre-mechanic/maintenance training
- Maintenance worker
- High school diploma
- $29,000-$37,440 annual salary

Pre-mechanic/maintenance training and work experience
- Industrial maintenance technician
- Technical high school diploma and work experience
- $31,000-$52,000 annual salary

Associate degree
- Industrial Maintenance supervisor
- Associate degree and maintenance experience
- $52,000-$72,800 annual salary

Bachelor’s degree
- Facilities manager
- Bachelor’s degree in engineering and maintenance experience
- $80,000-$130,000+ annual salary

Sources/References:

O*Net Online-Summary Report, Ohio Labor Market Information