

CAD & Mechanical Design FAQ

Spokane Community College

What do CAD and Mechanical Designers do?

- Our CAD Design and Mechanical Design programs lead you to great jobs in engineering design.
- Solid Modeling software is used to come up with brand new products, or redesign existing parts, and then develop the Models and CAD drawings needed to manufacture them.
- The jobs are in several engineering related fields including machine design, product design, structural steel, manufacturing/fabrication, aerospace, and mechanical engineering contractor positions, including HVAC, piping & plumbing, and schematic drafting
- This all happens in an engineering office environment with the bonus of using our full Design Shop to create a prototype and prove your design in wood, metals, plastics, even carbon fiber composites. The programs also incorporate 3D plastic Prototyping machines, CNC and Laser cutting to develop new design ideas like you see on TV shows.

What kind of jobs do CAD & Mechanical Designers get?

- These programs lead to a professional job in the engineering world and employees make good wages with full benefits in year-around jobs with our two year degree. There is also the option to transfer to EWU as a junior and add a Bachelor's degree on top of these technical degrees, often after a year or more of working in industry.
- Look into taking this program for a fulfilling, respected career decision.

Character Traits for CAD and Mechanical Designers

- The best Designers and Engineers enjoy complex problem solving. If you choose design or engineering as a career, you will turn ideas into reality and solve problems that better society.
- You should be a team player and have excellent communication skills; both written and oral. This will be important when you are planning and creating new projects.
- You should also be curious, creative, innovative, and practical about how things work. Then enjoy learning how to make things work more efficiently.
- CAD and Mechanical Designers are typically good at math and science.
- If you enjoy trying to solve complex problems, working with your hands as well as spending the day dreaming up solutions, then a career in CAD Design or Mechanical Design may be for you.