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Ways of working

A

Working hours

'I'm an **office worker** in an insurance company. It's a **nine-to-five** job with regular **working hours**. I need my **swipe card** to get into the office. The work isn't very interesting, but I like to be able to go home at a reasonable time.'

Note

You can also say **clock in** and **clock out**.

Note

BrE: **flexitime**
AmE: **flextime**

'I'm in computer programming. There's a system of **flexitime** in my company, which means we can work when we want, within certain limits. We can start at any time till 11, and finish as early as 3 – as long as we do enough hours each month. It's ideal for me as I have two young children.'

'I work in a car plant. I work in **shifts** and I have to **clock on** and **clock off** at the beginning and end of every shift. I may be on the **day shift** one week and the **night shift** the next week. It's difficult changing from one shift to another. When I change shifts, I have problems changing to a new routine for sleeping and eating. When the company is selling lots of cars, they ask us to work **overtime** – more hours than usual for more money.'

'I'm a commercial artist in an advertising agency. Unlike most other people in my department who **commute** to work every day, I **work from home** and avoid the long journeys that some **commuters** experience every day. That's the benefit of **teleworking** or **telecommuting** – working from home and using the computer and phone to communicate with other people.'



Swiping a card

B

Nice work if you can get it

All these words are used in front of **job** and **work**.

- **satisfying, stimulating, fascinating, exciting** – the work is interesting and gives you positive feelings
- **dull, boring, uninteresting, unstimulating** – the work is not interesting
- **repetitive, routine** – the work involves doing the same things again and again
- **tiring, tough, hard, demanding** – the work is difficult and makes you tired

C

Nature of work

My work **involves**
I **like / dislike / prefer / enjoy**

+ *noun*
human contact
long hours
teamwork

+ *-ing*
working with figures
dealing with customers
solving problems