

# Trade Profile

## Auto Body and Collision Technician



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# **RED SEAL**

# **TRADE PROFILE**

## **AUTO BODY AND COLLISION**

## **TECHNICIAN**



# STRUCTURE OF THE TRADE PROFILE

This profile has two sections that provide a snapshot of the trade's description, and all trade activities as they are organized in the Red Seal Occupational Standard:

**Description of the Concrete Finisher trade:** an overview of the trade's duties, work environment, job requirements, similar occupations and career progression

**Task Matrix:** a chart which outlines graphically the major work activities, tasks and sub-tasks of this trade

**Major Work Activity (MWA):** the largest division within the standard that is comprised of a distinct set of trade activities

**Task:** distinct actions that describe the activities within a major work activity

**Sub-task:** distinct actions that describe the activities within a task

A complete version of the occupational standard, which provides additional detail for the trade activities, skills and knowledge can be found at [www.red-seal.ca](http://www.red-seal.ca).

# DESCRIPTION OF THE AUTO BODY AND COLLISION TECHNICIAN TRADE

“Auto Body and Collision Technician” is this trade’s official Red Seal occupational title approved by the CCDA. Prior to October 2018, the trade name was Motor Vehicle Body Repairer (Metal and Paint). This standard covers tasks performed by auto body and collision technicians whose occupational title may vary across provinces and territories of Canada. For official provincial or territorial names, please refer to the [Ellis Chart](#).

Auto body and collision technicians repair and restore damaged motor vehicles. They assess body damage and develop repair estimates and repair plans. Their repair work may range from correcting minor structural damage and cosmetic scratches and dents to fixing extensive structural damage to motor vehicles. Some parts may need to be removed for access or during repairs. Vehicle parts that are damaged beyond repair are replaced. The alignment and replacement of suspension and steering components is also performed in this trade. Restoring interior components of vehicles falls within the scope of the trade. Auto body and collision technicians may work with mechanical and electronic components such as air conditioning (A/C) systems, exhaust systems, drivetrain, engine cooling systems, advanced electronic components (adaptive cruise control and lane departure features), and passenger restraint systems (seat belts and air bags).

In this sector, most auto body and collision technicians work in private enterprises or are self-employed. They may be employed by body repair facilities, auto and truck dealerships, custom repair facilities, and trucking and bus companies. In larger repair facilities or dealerships, there may be a division of responsibilities among the team of repair professionals. Some may work exclusively on collision specialization such as damage repair, frame straightening, refinishing, suspension, detailing, or auto glass installation. Generally in smaller repair facilities, auto body and collision technicians tend to be responsible for a wider range of these duties. While they may work as part of the repair team, which includes other auto body and collision technicians, automotive refinishing technicians, automotive service technicians, and others in the automotive sector, journeypersons tend to work independently.

Auto body and collision technicians require proficiency with a variety of tools and equipment, some of which are technologically advanced. Diagnostic scanning equipment is used for diagnosis and programming electronic and electrical systems. Hand and power tools are used in the repair and replacement of motor vehicle parts. Welding and cutting equipment is also used. Auto body and collision technicians work with a number of materials such as metal, glass, plastic and composites. Surface repairs may require the application of repair materials. In addition, they may prepare surfaces for refinishing and apply a variety of appropriate refinishing products. They have refinishing application and detailing skills.

Working environments vary in this trade. Typically, auto body and collision technicians work indoors in an environment that may be noisy and dusty. However, many repair facilities are well ventilated to reduce health risks from dust and fumes. Health and safety are important issues as these workers are frequently in contact with chemicals (e.g. paints, solvents and fillers) and physical hazards (e.g. lifting heavy objects, frame equipment and sharp metal). Ongoing safety training and safe work practices are important.

Key attributes for people entering this trade are good communication skills, mechanical aptitude, problem solving skills, an eye for detail, computer literacy and a commitment to ongoing training. The work often requires considerable standing, kneeling, lifting, climbing, pulling and reaching.

With experience, auto body and collision technicians may move into supervisory positions, start their own business, or become auto damage appraisers. Some of the skills of this trade may be transferred to other occupations such as sheet metal worker, industrial painter, welder, automotive refinishing technician, truck and transport mechanic, recreation vehicle service technician, glazier or automotive service technician and to other sectors such as manufacturing, aviation and marine.

# AUTO BODY AND COLLISION TECHNICIAN

## TASK MATRIX

### A – Performs common occupational skills

**12%**

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Task A-1</b><br><b>Performs safety-related functions</b><br><b>11%</b>          | <b>1.01 Maintains safe work environment</b>    | <b>1.02 Uses personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety equipment</b> |  |
| <b>Task A-2</b><br><b>Uses and maintains tools and equipment</b><br><b>17%</b>     | <b>2.01 Maintains hand and power tools</b>     | <b>2.02 Maintains frame and unibody repair and measuring equipment</b>    | <b>2.03 Uses lifting equipment</b>                   |
|  | <b>2.04 Uses diagnostic equipment</b>          | <b>2.05 Maintains refinishing tools and equipment</b>                     |  |
| <b>Task A-3</b><br><b>Uses and maintains welding equipment</b><br><b>17%</b>       | <b>3.01 Uses welding equipment</b>             | <b>3.02 Maintains welding equipment</b>                                   |  |
| <b>Task A-4</b><br><b>Organizes work and uses documentation</b><br><b>12%</b>      | <b>4.01 Prepares estimates and supplements</b> | <b>4.02 Prepares repair plan</b>  | <b>4.03 Organizes parts, materials and work area</b> |
|  | <b>4.04 Uses documentation</b>                 |   |  |
| <b>Task A-5</b><br><b>Uses communication and mentoring techniques</b><br><b>8%</b> | <b>5.01 Uses communication techniques</b>      | <b>5.02 Uses mentoring techniques</b>                                     |  |
| <b>Task A-6</b><br><b>Removes and installs trim and hardware</b><br><b>13%</b>     | <b>6.01 Removes trim and hardware</b>          | <b>6.02 Installs trim and hardware</b>                                    |  |

**Task A-7**  
**Performs final inspections**  
**10%**

**7.01 Performs final operational check**

**7.02 Performs final quality control inspection**

**Task A-8**  
**Applies corrosion protection and sound deadening materials**  
**12%**

**8.01 Applies corrosion inhibitors and undercoats**

**8.02 Applies seam sealers and sound deadeners**

## **B – Repairs frame and structural components**

**23%**

**Task B-9**  
**Prepares for repair and replacement of structural components**  
**38%**

**9.01 Identifies extent of damage**

**9.02 Removes components for access**

**9.03 Performs vehicle setup**

**Task B-10**  
**Repairs, removes and installs structural components**  
**44%**

**10.01 Repairs structural components**

**10.02 Removes structural components**

**10.03 Installs structural components**

**Task B-11**  
**Removes, installs and repairs structural and laminated glass**  
**18%**

**11.01 Removes structural glass**

**11.02 Installs structural glass**

**11.03 Repairs laminated glass**

# C – Repairs non-structural outer body panels and related components

**20%**

**Task C-12**  
Removes, repairs and installs metal panels and components  
**46%**

**12.01 Prepares metal panels and components for repair**

**12.02 Removes metal panels and components**

**12.03 Repairs metal panels and components**

**12.04 Installs metal panels and components**

**Task C-13**  
Removes, repairs and installs plastic and composite panels and components  
**37%**

**13.01 Prepares plastic and composite panels and components for repair**

**13.02 Removes plastic and composite panels and components**

**13.03 Repairs plastic and composite panels and components**

**13.04 Installs plastic and composite panels and components**

**Task-C 14**  
Removes and installs non-structural glass  
**17%**

**14.01 Removes non-structural glass**

**14.02 Installs non-structural glass**

## D – Repairs mechanical, electrical and alternative-fuel system components

12%

|  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Task D-15</b><br>Deactivates and reactivates alternative-fuel systems<br><b>20%</b>               | <b>15.01 Deactivates alternative-fuel systems</b>    | <b>15.02 Reactivates alternative-fuel systems</b>           |   |
| <b>Task D-16</b><br>Removes and installs mechanical components<br><b>48%</b>                         | <b>16.01 Removes mechanical components</b>           | <b>16.02 Installs mechanical components</b>                 |   |
| <b>Task D-17</b><br>Removes, repairs and installs electrical and electronic components<br><b>32%</b> | <b>17.01 Removes electrical components</b>           | <b>17.02 Repairs damaged wires and protective coverings</b> | <b>17.03 Installs electrical components</b> |
|  | <b>17.04 Services advanced electronic components</b> |   |   |

## E – Repairs interior components and services restraint systems

10%

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Task E-18</b><br>Repairs and replaces interior components<br><b>39%</b>      | <b>18.01 Repairs interior components</b>          | <b>18.02 Replaces interior components</b>             |
| <b>Task E-19</b><br>Services supplemental restraint systems (SRS)<br><b>61%</b> | <b>19.01 Services seat belt restraint systems</b> | <b>19.02 Services air bags and related components</b> |

# F – Performs refinishing procedures

**18%**

**Task F-20**  
**Prepares surface**  
**25%**

**20.01 Performs initial preparation**

**20.02 Masks surface**

**20.03 Strips surface**

**20.04 Sands surface**

**Task F-21**  
**Uses repair materials**  
**13%**

**21.01 Mixes repair materials**

**21.02 Applies repair materials**

**Task F-22**  
**Prepares refinishing equipment**  
**13%**

**22.01 Prepares spray booth**

**22.02 Performs spray gun setup**

**Task F-23**  
**Prepares refinishing materials**  
**17%**

**23.01 Mixes refinishing materials**

**23.02 Performs colour adjustments**

**Task F-24**  
**Applies refinishing materials**  
**23%**

**24.01 Applies sealers**

**24.02 Applies base coat**

**24.03 Applies single-stage paint**

**24.04 Applies clear coat**

**Task F-25**  
**Performs post-refinishing functions**  
**9%**

**25.01 Removes masking materials**

**25.02 Corrects surface imperfections**

## G – Performs detailing and cleaning

5%

|   |  |                               |                                     |
|---|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Task G-26</b><br><b>Details exterior</b><br><b>61%</b> | <b>26.01 Removes minor imperfections</b> | <b>26.02 Polishes vehicle</b> | <b>26.03 Touches up stone chips</b> |
| <b>Task G-27</b><br><b>Cleans vehicle</b><br><b>39%</b>   | <b>27.01 Cleans exterior</b>             | <b>27.02 Cleans interior</b>  |                                     |