



WARFARE

MINE WARFARE SPECIALIST

As a Mine Warfare Specialist, you'll be doing vitally important work making the seas safer for both Royal Navy and civilian ships. As well as threatening our warships in combat areas, mines make our peacetime activities, such as maritime police work or delivering humanitarian aid, more difficult and dangerous. You'll be trained to find mines using mine-hunting sonar. And, having detected them, you'll then be responsible for launching and controlling your ship's remote-controlled mine-disposal vehicle (an unmanned miniature submarine) to deal with them. The safety of your ship, and everyone on board, could one day depend on your skill, quick thinking and powers of concentration. It's a big responsibility, but one with rewards to match.

What we're looking for

You'll need commitment, enthusiasm and common sense. It's also important that you enjoy practical work. As well as large ships, you may spend time on smaller ships and in boats, in all kinds of weather. Above all, you need to work well as part of a team.

Basic training

Your Royal Navy career begins with nine weeks' basic training at HMS Raleigh. It sounds like a ship, but in fact it's a shore base near Plymouth. The discipline, teamwork, organisational, firefighting and weapon-handling skills you'll learn here will stay with you right through your Royal Navy career.

Aim to get yourself as fit as you can before you arrive. You'll be doing a lot of physical exercise and you'll find it much easier if you're already in good shape. There's also a swimming test, so if you can't swim, make sure you've learned by the time you join us. You can find out more about HMS Raleigh at royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

Professional training

After your basic training, you'll spend three months at the Maritime Warfare School at HMS Collingwood in Hampshire. Here, you'll be trained in the specialist areas of mine warfare, including the various types of mines, how they operate and how they're used in war and how to dispose of them. You'll also learn to detect mines and minefields using mine-hunting sonar and how to launch and operate the remote-controlled mine-disposal vehicle.

Pay and conditions

Royal Navy pay compares well with similar civilian jobs. As well as basic pay, you'll get extra money for special skills, when you're promoted and when you're away at sea. We also offer an excellent pension scheme, six weeks' paid holiday a year and free medical and dental care.

You'll generally join us on a full career, which is 18 years or to age 40, whichever is later. You may have the opportunity to serve beyond this, depending on what you want and the needs of the Royal Navy. If you want to leave, you can send us your request one year before completing your specified return of service. How long you serve will depend on the branch you join. You will need to give 12 months' notice.

Promotion

You'll start your career as an Able Rate. With some experience and further training, you could be promoted to Leading Hand. After that, you may go on to become a Petty Officer, Chief Petty Officer, then a Warrant Officer. If you show the right commitment, skills and academic ability, you may also have the chance to become a Commissioned Officer. You'll be chosen for promotion on merit, so if you work hard, you can quickly rise through the ranks.

Skills for life

Training will be a constant feature of your time with us. We'll help you gain academic qualifications like GCSEs and A-levels, and even a degree. You can also work towards NVQs and other vocational awards. As well as helping you develop your Royal Navy career, everything you achieve will be recognised and valued by a future civilian employer.

Sport and recreation

We can offer you a fantastic range of sports and other activities. All our ships and shore bases have superb sports and fitness facilities and we play a huge number of team and individual games. You'll also have the chance to go on adventurous training, which could be anything from a jungle expedition to mountaineering and caving to parachuting.

DO I QUALIFY?

MINE WARFARE SPECIALIST

Age:	16 to 36.
Nationality:	British or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	No specific qualifications are needed for this job.
Sex:	This job is open to both men and women.
Starting salary:	For current information, visit royalnavy.mod.uk/careers

HOW TO APPLY

GET IN TOUCH

1. Go to royalnavy.mod.uk/careers or call **08456 07 55 55**.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

2. Go to an initial careers presentation.
3. Have an informal discussion with a Careers Adviser.
4. Take the recruit test.
5. Discuss your job options with a Careers Adviser.
6. Pass the medical, eye and pre-joining fitness tests.
7. Join the Royal Navy.

