



Job Title:

FREELANCE REPAIR TECHNICIAN

Hours: 8 per week for an initial 6 month pilot

Timing: Hours can fit around your life but we would require one Saturday per month

Hourly pay: £15.73 per hour

Meets with: CommunityBuilder & Volunteer Manager, ETL Director, Service Designer & Capacity Builder, Workshop Managers, ETL Volunteers

Accountable to: ETL Director

About The Edinburgh Tool Library (ETL)

Edinburgh Tool Library is the UK's first tool library, promoting sharing as a way of reducing our environmental impact. We lend our members tools for DIY, gardening, decorating and machine repair, so that they don't need to own them. Not only does this collaborative approach make sense environmentally, it also helps our members financially. Members can borrow tools to use at home from our libraries in Meadowbank, Portobello and Colinton. They have access to our two wood workshops in Leith and Portobello several times a week - usually evenings and weekends.

As well as supporting the volunteers, our staff run an employability programme, a series of volunteer builds, a residency programme for young artists and makers, a Little Free Library making programme, various outreach programmes with community partner organisations and share our learnings through the Scottish Share and Repair Network to help tool libraries pop up successfully all around Scotland.

Without the commitment and initiative of our volunteers, the Edinburgh Tool Library couldn't be what it is today: a simple resource that has grown to reach and help many communities and that keeps on inspiring and bringing together members and sharers in Edinburgh, Scotland and beyond, and volunteers themselves.

At ETL we have a passion for repair, and act as the big sister organisation of Repair Café Edinburgh. We also have a dedicated repair space where we fix the tools in our inventory, where this role would be based. The funding for this pilot has come from the Leith Chooses participatory budgeting fund, showing the people in the local area also value repair and reuse, and we want to use this opportunity to create something sustainable, that works with other local repairers - we will be complementing existing businesses and groups, not competing, therefore the items you will be fixing will generally be things that can't be fixed elsewhere.

ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES

As a Repair Technician at our Repairmongery, you will play a crucial role in helping community members repair and extend the lifespan of their broken or malfunctioning items. Your expertise and skills will contribute to reducing waste, promoting sustainability, and fostering a sense of community.

Responsibilities:

- **Diagnose and assess items:**
 - Examine items brought in by the community to identify issues and determine repair feasibility
 - Communicate with visitors to understand the history and symptoms of the item
- **Repair and restoration:**
 - Perform repairs on a variety of items, such as electronics, small appliances, and tools
 - Use appropriate tools and techniques to fix broken parts, replace components, and restore functionality
 - Ensure safety and quality standards during repairs
- **Maintain records:**
 - Keep track of repaired items, documenting the type of repair and any replacement parts used
 - Assist with data collection for reporting and improvement purposes
 - Order parts and manage repairs depending on delivery times
- **Customer service:**
 - Interact with visitors in a friendly and respectful manner
 - Provide clear explanations about the repair process and estimated completion time

PERSON SPECIFICATIONS

- **Technical skills:**
 - Proficiency in repairing various items (e.g. sewing machines, small appliances, electronics)
 - Proficiency with sharpening tools and kitchenware
 - Familiarity with common tools and repair techniques
 - Ability to troubleshoot and diagnose issues effectively
- **Communication skills:**
 - Excellent interpersonal skills to interact with ETL volunteers and visitors of all ages and backgrounds, and make everyone feel welcome
 - Patience and empathy when explaining repairs to non-experts
- **Passion for sustainability:**
 - Genuine interest in promoting a circular economy and reducing waste
 - Willingness to learn and adapt to new repair challenges

What else do I need to know?

As this is a pilot, we really need someone who can hit the ground running in terms of the repairing of items. Unfortunately, this means there isn't an immediate opportunity for training, so only apply if you feel you already have the skills needed.

We are an accredited Living Wage Employer, and an Equal Opportunities Employer. We encourage applicants from across the community.

If the model proves to be successful, there is potential for more hours and longer-term work.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit your CV, a 1-page covering letter (explaining why you suit the role and why you want to work with ETL), along with a reference from 1 recent employer or voluntary organisation in a relevant role. Send this to chris@edinburghtoollibrary.org.uk

If you would welcome this information in a different format, or have any access requirements you'd like to discuss, please contact chris@edinburghtoolibrary.org.uk.