

WORKING TO BE A

Waiter or Waitress

**What type of education is needed to be a waiter or waitress?**

- High school diploma or equivalent is preferred
- Most of the job can be learned through on the job training

What licenses or certifications are needed to be a waiter or waitress?

- None required

What is the work environment like for a waiter or waitress?

- Indoors, the kitchen area may be very warm
- Can be hazardous from grease and spills but using the correct safety precautions can reduce chances of accidents
- Requires long periods of standing, bending, and lifting
- May be full time or part time

What does a waiter or waitress do?

- Takes orders from customers by writing them down or memorizing
- Relays orders to kitchen staff
- Prepares beverage orders
- Answers customer questions and attends to customer needs
- Calculates cost for customers
- Takes customer payments and gives change if needed
- May remove old dishes and food from table and put out new silverware and dishes for next customers
- May prepare salads, appetizers, and desserts
- May fill condiment containers on tables or bar
- Refills drinks for customers

What is the normal pay range for a waiter or waitress?

- \$5.48—\$9.85 per hour plus tips

How can a waiter or waitress grow in their field?

- Can become a supervisor
- Through training and experience, can move into a related career in food service such as a chef or restaurant manager

The Source

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