

Sell Things  
to People

# Shelf Stocker

## Other names for this job

Grocery clerk, food store clerk, retail shelf stocker, supermarket clerk

## What do shelf stockers do?

Shelf stockers work in stores. They take new stock (products) out of boxes. They may count it, weigh it or sort it into groups. They put prices on the stock. They put the stock on shelves. They **scan** items to check prices.

## Meet a shelf stocker

Ben is a shelf stocker. He works in a large food store.

Here are the things that Ben does:

- He opens boxes of food and other products. He unpacks the boxes.
- He puts items on shelves and in displays. For example, he puts green peppers in the produce section. He puts them with other peppers. He makes the display look good.
- He checks the shelves. He straightens things on the shelves.

- He finds things for customers. Sometimes he has to get things from the **stockroom**.
- Sometimes customers drop something. For example, a jar of jam. Ben cleans up the mess.
- Sometimes Ben's **supervisor** asks him to help the cashiers. He puts customers' groceries in bags.



## What is Ben's work like?

Ben works an 8-hour **shift**. He often works at night and on weekends. It is easier to stock shelves when no customers are in the store.

Ben stands, reaches and bends a lot at work. He lifts boxes. They can weigh up to 20 kilograms (about 45 pounds).

Ben has to follow his supervisor's **instructions**. Ben does different things in the store. For example, Ben unpacks food and puts it in the freezers. He puts sale prices on products.

He works on his own or with another shelf stocker. He also helps customers.



### tip

Do you see some words in **bold**? You can look up these words in the Easy Reading Job Profiles Dictionary.

## Do you want to be a shelf stocker?

- You must be strong and healthy.
- You need to be able to stand, bend and reach a lot.
- You must be good with your hands.
- You must be honest. For example, you may break something. You need to tell your supervisor.
- You often have to work on your own.
- You must follow rules.
- You need to work well with **co-workers**. You must be good with customers.
- You must be able to organize things.

## What education do shelf stockers need?

Shelf stockers learn on the job. They don't need a high school **diploma**.

You can ask your **career advisor** or tutor about working as a shelf stocker.

## What can shelf stockers do in the future?

Shelf stockers can work in grocery stores, drugstores, hardware stores and other businesses.

Shelf stockers with **experience** may become supervisors. Supervisors may need a high school diploma.

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### How much does a shelf stocker make?

A shelf stocker usually makes between \$8.80 and \$22.00 per hour.

## Other jobs to think about

**Cashiers** work in all kinds of stores and restaurants. Cashiers scan products. They use a **cash register** to calculate (figure out) bills. They take customers' money or credit cards. They make change for customers.



**Salespersons** sell things to customers. They help customers. They work in many kinds of stores. For example, clothing stores, bookstores and **home improvement stores**.

**Warehouse workers** work with many kinds of **materials**. They prepare customers' orders. They pack and ship orders. They check orders that come in to the **warehouse**.

## Do you want more information?

You can find the information below at [alis.alberta.ca/occinfo](http://alis.alberta.ca/occinfo). Or, you can ask your career advisor or tutor.

- OCCinfo profile: Retail Shelf Stocker
- Easy Reading Job Profiles Dictionary

You can also ask your career advisor or tutor about jobs that are like Shelf Stocker.

