

# COLLOCATIONS WITH “WORK”

## ADJECTIVES + work

### **part-time work**

*Lot's of students in the UK do some part-time work at the weekends.*

### **full-time work**

*Is it difficult to find full-time work in your country?*

### **paid work**

*Many designers complain that people don't expect them to do paid work.*

### **secretarial/clerical/office work**

*I'd rather focus on paid work than being a volunteer.*

### **legal work**

*I let my lawyer take care of all the legal work.*

### **manual work**

*This job requires quite a bit of manual work.*

### **voluntary/volunteer work**

*John was considering doing some voluntary work at the weekends.*

### **sb.'s daily work**

*Everyone used to go to the pub after their daily work.*

### **hard work**

*Being a teacher these days is hard work.*

### **backbreaking work**

*After a month of backbreaking work, I was ready to take some days off.*

### **arduous work**

*The job involved some physically arduous work in the mornings.*

# COLLOCATIONS WITH “WORK”

## **heavy work**

*Being a bricklayer is heavy work – not for everyone!*

## **light work**

*During my first week at the company I was only given light work to do.*

## **PHRASES with work**

### **sb.’s line of work**

*You can’t just take a leave of absence in my line of work.*

### **the work environment**

*The work environment at the agency was fantastic.*

### **work practices**

*The manager is constantly trying to implement new work practices.*

### **work ethic**

*Anyone can find success if they have a strong work ethic.*

### **be out of work**

*Most of my friends are out of work or stuck in a rut.*

### **a piece of work**

*My oldest son is such a piece of work!*

### **have your work cut out (for you)**

*The hockey team will have their work cut out if they want to win.*

### **work in progress**

*The yard is still a work in progress. It will be ready in a month or two.*

### **all work and no play (makes Jack a dull boy)**

*Take a break, will you? All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy!*

## COLLOCATIONS WITH “WORK”

### **make heavy/hard work of sth.**

*She makes hard work of her assignments by waiting until the last minute.*

### **make short/light work of sth.**

*We'll make light work of this project now that you've joined the team.*

### **sth. is in the works**

*They some plans in the works, but nothing could be made public yet.*

### **a work of art**

*Stanley's films are considered important works of art.*

### **get sth. to work**

*I've tried to fix the remote, but I can't get it to work.*

### **work both ways**

*We're willing to negotiate the offer, but it has to work both ways.*

### **work your way to/through sth.**

*Why can't you work your way through college like your parents did?*

### **work sb. hard**

*The company I work for is infamous for working its employees hard.*

### **work your fingers to the bone**

*Sheila worked her fingers to the bone renovating her apartment.*

### **work your butt/ass/arse off**

*Sarah and Jonah work their arses off the whole semester.*

### **it works for me/you/etc.**

*Work few extra hours today and having tomorrow off? It works for me!*

### **work wonders/miracles**

*Jane loved her new face cream. It worked wonders on her dry skin!*

# COLLOCATIONS WITH “WORK”

## work sb.'s magic

*My dad's the one who can fix the car by working his magic.*

## work one's way up

*Lauren managed to work her way up the company in a couple of years.*

## work sth. out

*We need to work out our schedule for tomorrow.*

## work days/nights/weekends/etc.

*I'm so fed up with working nights. I'm exhausted all day!*

## Prepositions with WORK

### at work

*Sorry, brother, I'm at work now. I'll call you later.*

### work in (a city/area/industry)

*Many people who work in London actually live on the outskirts.*

### work at (an organisation/company)

*Rob worked at the same bank for 20 years before getting the axe.*

### work for (a person/company)

*I don't think I can keep working for my boss any longer.*

### work as (a profession)

*Rachel worked as a teacher until she decided to quit.*

### work on (a project/task)

*The children have been working on a secret project all week.*

### work under (a person)

*Working under Jane hasn't been easy, but it's been rewarding.*

# COLLOCATIONS WITH “WORK”

## **work towards (a solution/agreement)**

*The two parties struggled to work towards an agreement*

## **work against (sth./sb.)**

*The right-wing party is constantly working against socialist measures.*

## **VERBS + work**

### **start work**

*He started work as a web developer for an important agency.*

### **look for work/seek work**

*Beth's a bit desperate. She's looking for any kind of work she can do.*

### **find work**

*It's impossible to find decent work in this industry.*

### **return to work/go back to work**

*When do you go back to work?*

### **carry out work**

*The work was carried out by three office clerks.*

### **do work**

*I need to go home early. I have some work to do.*

### **set to/get to/get down to work (=start work)**

*They got down to work early so they could leave sooner.*

### **undertake work**

*None of the teenagers wanted to undertake voluntary work.*

### **work starts/begins**

*What time does work begin tomorrow?*

## COLLOCATIONS WITH “WORK”

### **work continues**

*Work continues on most of the house, but the kitchen is finished.*

### **make sth. work**

*They tried to stay together for the kids, but they couldn't make it work.*