

Holidays

58% of tradesmen take fewer than 26 days holiday per year
(annual statutory holiday allowance is 28 days, including Bank Holidays)



0-10 days



11-19 days



20-25 days



26-30 days



30+ days

Almost a 1/4 of tradesmen are planning on taking more holiday this year compared to last year (2012)

Driving

87%

of tradesmen are driving the same amount or more compared to last year (2013 vs 2012)

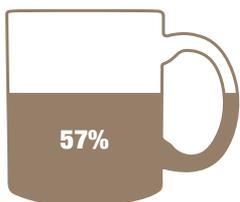


Eating

62%

of tradesmen eat a packed lunch on a working day

Tea is the most popular drink with tradesmen



8/10

tradesmen skip meals while working

The average lunchbreak is



1%

of tradesmen take more than an hour for lunch



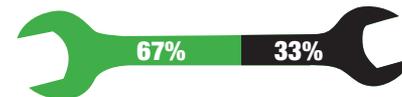
SCREWFIX

Spare time

47%

of tradesmen use their spare time for business admin

67% of tradesmen complete DIY jobs in their own time



39%

of tradesmen watch and play sport in their spare time

Working

On average, tradesmen work

41-50 hours per week

83%

say they are working the same or more hours compared to last year (2013 vs 2012)

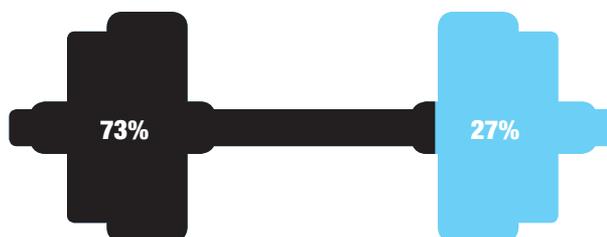
A fifth of tradesmen are working more than 50 hours a week



Exercise

73%

of tradesmen don't think they do enough exercise



17%

of tradesmen walk to work



August 2013

UK TRADESMEN WORKING HARDER THAN EVER

Tradesmen are working longer hours than ever, willing to sacrifice holidays and weekends in a bid to squeeze more jobs in.

The average tradesman works between 41 and 50 hours a week, more than bankers (40.9 hours), medical practitioners (38.4 hours), barristers and judges (36 hours), and accountants (35.6 hours)*. A fifth of tradesmen work more than 50 hours a week, compared to the UK average of 36.4 hours**.

In addition to a long working week, tradesmen are also not taking the annual statutory holiday entitlement of 28 days, with one in six taking fewer than 10 days' leave each year. Just 1% take more than an hour for lunch and three quarters skip it altogether.

The research from Screwfix showed that, even when they aren't at work, tradesmen never truly 'clock off' with a third spending their leisure time doing DIY and nearly half (47%) catching up on business admin.

However, there are ways tradesmen can reduce this pressure, claims Screwfix.

John Mewett, marketing director for Screwfix, comments: "We know how hard tradesmen work, but the research really brought home how many hours they are putting in each week and how stretched they really are.

"For a lot of tradesmen, time is money, and so any opportunity to squeeze in an extra job is snatched up. This can mean long working hours and driving further from home to increase their workload. However, by finding ways to work more effectively, they can cut their working hours.

“Tradesmen have told us that using technology allows them to work more efficiently, by helping them to communicate with clients, invoice jobs and buy supplies for their business.”

Screwfix’s Click & Collect service has answered this need, allowing tradesmen to browse and purchase items online or on their mobiles and pick them up from one of our stores just five minutes later.”

John Mewett adds: “It seems that, even when they are away from work, tradesmen find it hard to switch off. More time is spent following up on business enquiries than with friends, and just one in ten find the time to play sport. Plus, with tradesmen taking responsibility for the school run as well as their day-to-day work, it’s clear to see that many are being stretched in too many directions.”

To help tradesmen fit everything in, Screwfix stores are now open seven days a week and from 7am – 8pm on weekdays. This gives customers the flexibility and convenience of dropping in when it suits them and, with more than 290 branches now open, there is always a Screwfix store nearby to stock up on the essentials.

Other findings from the research include:

- 58% of tradesmen take fewer than 26 holidays per year
- 87% of tradesmen are driving the same amount or more this year (2012 vs. 2013)
- 62% of tradesmen eat a packed lunch each day
- Tea is the most popular drink (57% of tradesmen choose this)
- 8 out of 10 tradesmen skip meals while working
- Average lunch break for tradesmen is 10 – 20 minutes
- 73% of tradesmen think they don’t take enough exercise
- 17% of tradesmen walk to work
- 83% of tradesmen are working the same hours or more this year (2012 vs. 2013)

For more information on Screwfix and the research, please visit [ENTER URL WHERE INFOGRAPHIC WILL BE HOSTED].

- ENDS -

*The Times Education Supplement 2012

<http://www.tes.co.uk/article.aspx?storycode=6318817>

** According to the Institute of Education May 2013 <http://www.ioe.ac.uk/82754.html>

Note to editors

About Screwfix:

Screwfix is recognised as being “where the trade buys” offering a straightforward and transparently-priced retail experience that enables busy tradesmen to shop 14,000 products over the phone, online, via their mobile or from their local store.

- From power tools and workwear to cables and pipe fittings, more than 11,000 products are available to collect from the national network of over 290 stores. An extra range of over 3,000 products can be ordered over the phone, online or from a local store for next day delivery, with orders taken up until 7pm to home or site.
- screwfix.com attracts 1 million visitors per week and the Screwfix *Click & Collect* service means customers can conveniently purchase supplies online and then collect from store just five minutes later.
- Customers can contact the UK-based Screwfix call centre free 7 days a week (plus bank holidays) on 0500 41 41 41, or on the mobile-friendly 01935 414141.
- Screwfix stores are open 7 days a week – see screwfix.com for local opening hours
- 94 per cent of customers would recommend a friend to Screwfix.

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