

Waiter

1) Job duties and tasks

- A waiter **is a person who** works in a restaurant or in a bar.
- **You must** greet customers and take their orders.
- **You also have to** serve food and drinks at their table.
- **You must** clear, clean and set tables for the customers.
- **You are also required to** take payment and make change.

2) Skills /competences

- **To** be a waiter, **you need to** be good with words when you talk to the customers. **It means that** you have to strong communication skills.
- **It is also very important to** be quick to react, have good reflexes and service skills.
- Then, **you must be able to** carry a tray full of beverages or dishes, which is not quite easy.
- **You have to** have knowledge about menu items and wine
- **It is necessary to** have food and drink service skills
- **You must** know about food health and safety

3) Qualities

- **The main quality for this job is** to be physically fit, energetic and efficient.
- A good waiter **must** move swiftly without appearing to run or rush.
- **You also need to** be friendly and keen with the customers. That's why if you are not very outgoing, this job is not made for you.

4) Working conditions/ salary

- Waiters work full or part-time hours, and may work evenings and weekends
- **There is usually** a dress code that you have to respect, depending on the company where you work.
- **Waiters usually** earn between minimum wage and \$19 an hour. They may also receive tips from customers, but it is up to the cafe/restaurant manager whether the tips are kept by individuals or divided equally among staff.

5) Studies / diplomas

- There are no specific requirements for waiters/waitresses as training is done on the job.

6) Drawbacks

- Working long hours non-stop.
- Working outside **may be asked**.
- **Being able to** work well under pressure.
- **It is often asked to** work evenings and weekends.
- **You must** spend a lot of time on your feet, in environments **that can be** noisy and stressful.

My personal point of view

*I would like to work as a waiter **because** you meet a lot of people and I am very outgoing. Also, I **don't want to** study at the University for years and **I prefer** when training is done on the job. **Besides**, I think I am a very energetic person **as** I can work for long hours **without being** tired. I **have already done** an internship in a restaurant and I **enjoyed it** a lot.*