

Maddi Simmons

Apprentice Engineer

Maddi is in her final year of her apprenticeship to become a qualified bus engineer.

Beginning her career in a sector that is predominantly populated by men - just **16.5%** of engineers in the UK are female - Maddi now wants to encourage other women into engineering.



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As a young woman, I was really nervous to begin my apprenticeship as I didn't know what to expect, especially when it came to the environment within the workshop. However, First Bus has ensured that it's a really inclusive and welcoming environment and it felt like everyone was on a level playing field from the offset.

I'd say to any women considering the industry that although engineering is a career that has always been typically associated with males, if it's really what you want to do, that shouldn't stop you. I have always enjoyed working with my hands and wanted to do something practical, so it felt like a natural path for me.

I would really encourage any other young women who feel the same to think about applying for an engineering apprenticeship – your gender or other people's perceived bias shouldn't stop you!

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