Pricing Sheet for Mobile Mechanic Jobs

Labor times and fees other people have published, in one place. Fill in your own numbers on the last page.

All figures below come from public pages, read in October 2026. Each one is listed with its source in SOURCES. These are published ranges, not a price list. Your area, your vehicles and your rate decide your price.

1. How long common jobs take

Published labor times for jobs mobile mechanics do most. Where two publishers state a time, both ranges are shown. Rows backed by a single publisher say "single source". Times differ by vehicle, access and who is counting, so use these as a starting point and check them against a labor guide you already use.

Job	What each publisher states	Sources
Brake pads, one axle	Jerry: 0.8 to 1.5 hours. YourMechanic: 1 to 2 hours for a mobile mechanic	2
Brake pads plus rotors, one axle	Jerry: 1.5 to 3 hours	Single source
Brake caliper	Jerry: 1 to 3 hours for an average caliper	Single source
Battery	Jerry: 20 to 60 minutes. NAPA: 20 to 30 minutes	2
Oil and filter	Jerry: 20 to 30 minutes in its sample jobs. NAPA: 15 to 45 minutes for most vehicles	2
Serpentine belt	Jerry: about 50 minutes billed. CarParts.com: 5 to 20 minutes, depending on engine design and experience	2, they differ
Alternator	Jerry: 1.0 to 3.5 hours. CarParts.com: 1 to 2.5 hours	2
Starter, easy access	Jerry: 0.7 to 1.2 hours. CarParts.com: 1 to 2 hours	2
Starter, medium access	Jerry: 1.5 to 3 hours	Single source
Starter, hard access	Jerry: 3 to 6+ hours. CarParts.com: 3 to 4+ hours cramped or rusted	2
Spark plugs, four-cylinder	NAPA: roughly an hour	Single source
Spark plugs, V6 or V8	NAPA: two to three hours. A YourMechanic mechanic's answer: 1.4 hours on one 3.6L V6. Jerry adds 30 to 90 minutes on tight V6 and some turbo engines	3
Water pump, belt-driven	Jerry: 2 to 4 hours. CarParts.com: under an hour when easily reached	2, they differ
Water pump, timing-belt-driven	Jerry: 4 to 8 hours	Single source

Job	What each publisher states	Sources
Shocks, a pair	Jerry: 45 to 120 minutes. Kelley Blue Book: up to two hours of labor for struts on a Camry (it does not say one axle or both)	2

2. What shops and mobile mechanics charge per hour

What was measured	Published figure	Who published it
Most common shop labor rate, US shops surveyed in 2025	$100 to $119 per hour	PartsTech survey, reported by Ratchet+Wrench
Share of shops between $100 and $139 per hour	Nearly 50%	Same survey, Ratchet+Wrench
Share of shops between $120 and $159 per hour	Almost half	Same survey, as quoted by AAA
Mobile mechanic hourly rate, Southern California	$100 to $150 per hour	Supercanic

The same survey is quoted with two different bands by two publishers. That is why both are shown instead of one average.

3. Diagnostic fees

Source	Published diagnostic figure
Airtasker (mobile mechanics), diagnostic row	$80 to $150
Supercanic, Southern California	$90 to $150
EC Mobile Auto Services, Sacramento	$65 for a check engine diagnosis

4. Travel and call-out: how published shops handle it

Three ways show up in the sources.

1. **No separate travel charge inside the service area.** EC Mobile Auto Services states a $0 service call fee, with travel free inside its Sacramento service area.
2. **A trip or call-out fee on top.** EC Mobile Auto Services says some California mobile mechanics charge a trip fee of $25 to $75 on top of the repair price. awajis says others add $10 to $30 by distance.
3. **Travel rolled into the call-out or diagnostic fee.** Supercanic states its diagnostic or call-out fee covers travel and the tech's time to test the vehicle.

5. Your numbers

Work the job out with your own figures. Nothing here is filled in for you.

Line	Your number
Labor hours for the job (from your labor guide or section 1)	_____
Your hourly rate	_____
Labor total (hours x rate)	_____
Parts	_____
Trip or call-out fee, if you charge one	_____
Total on the estimate	_____

6. Keep the estimate where you can find it

Garage Solo is free for 5 invoices a month, no card. Start free: https://app.garagesolo.com/signup?ref=lm-pricing-sheet

Sources

The quotes, dates and URLs for every figure are in SOURCES.md.