

**TYLER GARCIA**

**STATUS:** 2025 HS Grad

**CAREER GOAL:** Aerospace

**DESTINATION:** Denver, CO

**POWERPRINT™**

**Your signature career blueprint.  
Personalized. Purpose-driven.  
Backed by science.**

**CAREER FIT CHECK: WHO YOU ARE VS.  
WHAT YOU WANT**

**Personality Snapshot: The Decoder & Compass**

You're built for precision, curiosity, and deep thinking. Whether you're solving a complex problem or exploring how systems connect, you bring a steady presence and a sharp mind.

**WORKPLACE TRAITS**

- ✓ **Analytical** – You naturally dissect problems and seek the “why” behind everything. You don't just follow instructions, you improve them.
- ✓ **Focused** – You thrive when given time and space to dig in. Long-term projects, research, and technical challenges fuel your flow state.
- ✓ **Purpose-Driven** – You work best when the mission matters. You're not motivated by flashy perks, you want to build something that makes an impact.

This blend of traits makes you especially well-suited for roles where accuracy, innovation, and systems thinking are valued, like **aerospace engineering**, scientific research, or advanced design.

**COST OF LIVING:  
DENVER, CO**

**Entry-Level Salary** 82,000/year

**Cost of Living Index** 117 (higher)

**1 BR Apt. Rent** ~\$1,700/month

**Industry** Aerospace

**Job Market** Competitive & Strong

**Industry Growth** +9%

**Key Employers**

Ball Aerospace, Boeing, Raytheon, Lockheed

**Insight**

Denver has great opportunities to break into aerospace, with major companies, open roles, and strong industry growth — but the cost of living is high. For a more affordable launchpad, Huntsville, AL stands out with NASA and Boeing. Tucson, AZ offers strong defense opportunities, while Wichita, KS and Oklahoma City provide hands-on, entry-level roles without the big-city price tag.



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PATHWAYS



## WHAT YOU'LL NEED TO SUCCEED

### ✓ Education

- A bachelor's degree in Aerospace or Mechanical Engineering is key
- Participate in internships (NASA Pathways, SpaceX, FAA) to build early experience

### ✓ Certifications + Tools

- CAD software (SolidWorks, AutoCAD)
- MATLAB, Simulink
- Project-based experience (rocketry clubs, design competitions, etc.)

### ✓ Essential Soft Skills

- Precision Communication
- Collaborative Problem Solving
- Focused Project Execution

## WHAT TO START DOING NOW

**Join STEM or aerospace-focused clubs** in school (robotics, drones, or physics olympiads).

**Explore free tools like TinkerCAD or Fusion 360** to get hands-on with design.

**Apply for NASA's STEM engagement programs** or virtual internships through Space Foundation.

**Create a project portfolio.** Even small experiments, models, or simulations matter.

**Follow engineers and aerospace orgs** on LinkedIn to learn the language of the field.

## INDUSTRY OUTLOOK

The aerospace sector in Denver is projected to **grow by nearly 9% over** the next 5 years, fueled by federal defense contracts, R&D investment, and innovation in autonomous flight systems. With companies like Ball Aerospace, Boeing, Raytheon, and Lockheed anchoring the region, the city's ecosystem is evolving into a national hub for next-generation aerospace careers, especially those integrating AI and advanced materials. For students preparing now, this means entering the field at a time of transformation and expansion.

## CAREER FUTURE-PROOF

**AI is rapidly reshaping** aerospace from autonomous navigation to design optimization. To stay ahead, start learning how tools like ChatGPT, MATLAB AI plugins, or data visualization can support your workflow. In the future, engineers who can **speak both systems** and code will lead teams, not follow them. Even learning basic AI literacy now will set you apart in competitive internships and early career roles.



## YOUR PERSONALITY POWERPRINT

**Primary Power Type:** The Decoder

**Secondary Power Type:** The Compass

### THE WAY YOU'RE WIRED

You see what others overlook.

While the world races to react, you pause, observe, and decode. Your brain is built for depth, not distractions. You naturally analyze systems, patterns, human behavior, and contradictions. You don't just notice that something's off, you feel it in your gut and your neurons at the same time.

You're not here for surface-level anything. You're here for what's real, what works, and what holds up under pressure.

As a **Decoder**, you crave clarity; not just in work, but in relationships, identity, and direction. You get anxious when things don't make sense, but calm once you understand the mechanics behind them. You move through life like an architect in a world of decorators. You care little about how it looks, you care about how it functions.

Now layer in your **Compass** overlay: this part of you wants more than knowledge, it wants expansion.

You're not built to stay stuck, settle, or circle the same loop. You're driven to explore what's next, intellectually, physically, and sometimes even spiritually. When you combine those two traits, the Decoder's precision and the Compass's vision, you get someone who can build systems that move the world forward.

### WHAT YOU BRING TO THE ROOM

Even if you're not the loudest, you're often the sharpest thinker in the space. You absorb fast, retain quietly, and ask questions that shift the entire conversation.

#### Top Traits

**Strategic Insight:** You naturally zoom out, connect the dots, and craft elegant solutions others would miss.

**Concentration Power:** Once you're locked in, you can outwork almost anyone — not through hustle, but focus.

**Curated Curiosity:** You don't explore everything, you go deep into what fascinates you. And then you master it.

People may underestimate you at first because you don't always seek attention. But when they hear your ideas, see your work, or realize how consistently you get it right, they take notice. They just tend to arrive a little late to your brilliance.



## ⚠️ BLIND SPOTS TO NAVIGATE

Your strengths, when unchecked, can double as stress points.

**Overthinking = Overwhelm.** You want all the data before making a move, which can keep you stuck in preparation mode while others leap ahead.

**Emotional Underdrive.** You may process things cognitively but forget to feel them — or avoid emotion entirely when it gets messy. That can distance you from people who would actually support you.

**Control & Clarity Addiction.** If the path forward feels uncertain, you might freeze or spiral. Learning to move with uncertainty will be a growth edge that unlocks more of your power.

## 🔧 YOUR WORKSTYLE

You do your best work when expectations are high but distractions are low. You need structure, not micromanagement, and space to think before you act. Your superpower is problem-solving — but only when you believe in what you're solving for. You're not here to be busy. You're here to be effective.

### You work best in environments where:

- ✅ Expertise is respected
- ✅ Logic matters more than politics
- ✅ You're trusted to lead quietly and build boldly

### You struggle in environments where:

- ❌ There's chaos, emotional volatility, or reactive leadership
- ❌ No one listens to smart ideas unless they come from loud voices
- ❌ The mission doesn't feel meaningful

## 🌍 YOUR CAREER ALIGNMENT

Aerospace fits you, not because of the prestige or the pay, but because it challenges you on every level: intellectually, ethically, and technically.

You'll thrive in roles that require long-term thinking, systems design, simulations, or high-stakes problem-solving. You're the kind of person who doesn't just want to be in the room when history is made, you want to engineer the systems that made it possible.

**Best-fit career directions:** Aerospace engineering, Systems architecture, Research & development, Scientific investigation, Engineering strategy, Tech innovation roles with deep logic stacks

**Roles to avoid unless you have strong grounding:** Customer-facing emotional labor jobs, Environments with shifting priorities and no clear strategy, Workplaces where "loud wins" and introverted brilliance is overlooked

## 🧠 YOUR SELF-WORK + EDGE

To step into your full power, practice this:

Act before you're fully ready. Sometimes clarity only comes through motion.

Let people see your process. You don't have to be done and perfect to be valuable.

Use your words. You're often right, but people need to hear how you got there. Communication is connection.

## 🔥 FINAL LINE

You weren't built to follow a map. You were built to design the next frontier.