SoftwareSearch
BUILDING ELITE SOFTWARE TEAMS

AI / ML Developer Salary Guide
United Kingdom (2026)

Estimated Base Salaries by Experience Level

Tech Stack: *Python, SQL, NosQL, Vector DB, Knowledge Graphs, RAG, NLP*

Seniority	Salary Estimate	Typical Profile
Graduate / Junior	£45,000 - £65,000	Python, ML fundamentals and applied project work
Mid-Level	£70,000 - £90,000	Production ML, RAG, embeddings and NLP delivery
Senior	£95,000 - £125,000+	Architecture, evaluation, governance and AI product ownership

These are base salaries only, excluding bonus, equity, benefits, and contractor day rates.

Salary Drivers

RAG, embeddings and vector databases

NLP, multimodal and knowledge graph experience

Production evaluation and model monitoring

Regulated AI and privacy use cases

Hiring Trends

AI / ML Developer, 2026

AI/ML salaries rise fastest when candidates have production delivery, not just notebooks.

RAG and evaluation skills are now core commercial differentiators.

Knowledge graphs and GraphRAG add value in data-heavy domains.

Senior AI candidates command premium pay when they bridge ML, product and governance.