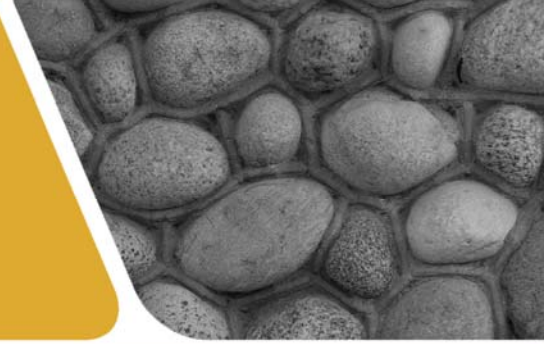


Stone Mason



Alternate title Lettercutter; Stone Fixer

Description Stonemasons cut and shape hard and soft stone blocks and masonry slabs for the construction and renovation of stone structures and monumental masonry (stonework for cemeteries).

In some States, stonemasonry is divided into various occupations, the major ones being stonemason machinist (stone sawyer and polisher) and lettercutter and stone fixer. Stonemasons often work in a noisy environment.

- Typical duties**
- cut and shape the stone using machine or hand tools, taking into account the characteristics of the stone being used;
 - cut and polish granite and marble for use in construction, such as for kitchen bench tops and bathroom vanity units;
 - design, cut and carve monumental masonry, such as memorial tablets and bases for statues, using templates for detailed work and a variety of chisels, punches and hammers, depending on the type of stone being used;
 - cut lettering into stonework by marking out the letters and then cut or chisel them with hand-held tools or sandblasting equipment;
 - construct walls using stone slabs and large masonry slab blocks
 - lay stone paving;
 - lay granite or marble floor tiles;
 - fix stone facades to buildings;
 - repair and replace stonework on old buildings, churches and monuments.

- Personal requirements**
- enjoy practical work;
 - physically fit;
 - able to work at heights;
 - able to work with your hands;
 - aptitude for technical drawing and working with computers is an advantage.



An Australian Government Initiative



Qualification	Certificate III in Stonemasonry (Monumental/Installation)
Entry pathway	Entry to this occupation is through an apprenticeship which includes on and off-the-job training. This will generally require successful completion of Year 10 or equivalent.
Job prospects	<p>This is a small specialised trade. Most stonemasons work in the renovation and maintenance of old buildings or in monumental masonry. The use of masonry in construction has largely been superseded by modern techniques.</p> <p>The vacancy level for Stonemasons is low. Vacancies arising from job changing (Stonemasons changing employers) are expected to provide 61 per cent of vacancies, compared with 32 per cent from job openings (Stonemasons leaving the occupation) and 7 per cent from new jobs.</p>
Specialisation	Monumental Stonemason
Related Jobs	Bricklayer
Further information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Big Plans [www.bigplans.com.au/]➤ Be Constructive [www.beconstructive.com.au/]➤ Group Training Australia [www.gtald.com.au/]