

Architectural Drafter



Alternate title Architectural Draftsperson; Architectural Associate; Architectural Technician; Architectural Technologist; Building Drafter; Building Drafting Officer; Drafter (Architectural); Drafting Officer; Draftsperson.

Description Architectural Drafters complete architects' and other designers' concepts by preparing drawings, estimates and plans and liaising with builders and contractors.

Architectural drafters spend some time outdoors inspecting sites.

Typical duties

- prepare architectural and working drawings showing plans, elevations, sections, materials, finishes and other aspects such as layouts, plumbing, drainage, carparking and landscaping;
- analyse architects' or other designs, and prepare preliminary sketches and detailed instructions;
- use computers or manually produce designs, detailed drawings and documentation;
- prepare working drawings showing plans, elevations, sections, materials and finishes, as well as other aspects such as layouts, plumbing, drainage, car parking and landscaping;
- calculate the quantity and quality of materials needed, material and labour costs and project completion dates;
- interpret client briefs and prepare and develop sketch plans for client approval;
- help prepare building specifications for building plans to suit individual clients;
- represent or assist architects on building sites to make sure that plans and specifications are followed;
- liaise with local government organisations;
- examine relevant codes and by-laws in the course of undertaking project documentation.

Personal requirements

- able to visualise ideas in three-dimensional form;
- enjoy technical drawing and working with computers;
- an interest in building technology;
- accuracy, neatness and patience in drawing work;
- logical thinker;
- some artistic talent in freehand drawing.



- Qualification** The names of the Qualification may vary depending on the Institution but include:
- Certificate IV in Residential Drafting
 - Diploma of Architectural Drafting
 - Diploma of Building Design
 - Advanced Diploma of Building Design – Architectural
- Entry pathway** Entry to these occupations is generally through an AQF Diploma for which there may be minimum requirements. In some instances relevant experience is required in addition to the formal qualification.
- Job prospects** Architectural Drafters are employed across several industries including: Building Construction; Technical Services; Government Administration; and Non-Building Construction.
- The vacancy level for Architectural Drafters is average. Vacancies arising from job changing (Architectural Drafters changing employers) are expected to provide 46 per cent of vacancies, compared with 48 per cent from job openings (Architectural Drafters leaving the occupation) and 6 per cent from new jobs.
- Specialisations** An Architectural Drafter may specialise as a Building Designer or it is possible for them to undertake further study and become an Architect.
- Further information**
- Australian Institute of Architects [www.architecture.com.au/]
 - Be Constructive [www.beconstructive.com.au/]
 - Building Designers Association of Australia [www.bdaa.com.au/]

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