

Construction Worker



Alternate title Builders Labourer

Description Construction workers assist tradespeople on building and construction sites by doing a range of manual labouring jobs.

Typical duties

- unload, carry and stack building materials and place tools and equipment in position
- dig trenches using hand tools or jackhammers to break up rock and concrete, so that footings and services can be laid
- place and compact filling and quarry materials
- help to erect and dismantle scaffolding (subject to certification in some states and territories), ramps, catwalks, barricades and warning lights
- mix, pour and spread concrete
- use wheelbarrows to remove rubble and rubbish from building sites
- dismantle small structures and strip materials in preparation for new constructions
- clean surfaces for painters.

Personal requirements

- physically fit
- enjoy practical and outdoor work
- able to work as part of a team
- able to work at a constant pace
- able to follow precise directions.

Related Jobs

➤ Bricklayer	➤ Council Worker - Outdoor
➤ Concreter	➤ Crane Operator
➤ Dogger	➤ Rigger
➤ Road Worker	➤ Scaffolder

Qualifications

- Certificate I in Construction
- Certificate II in Construction
- Certificate III in Civil Construction



- Entry pathway** You can work as a construction worker without formal qualifications. You will probably get some informal training on the job.
- You can also become a construction worker through a traineeship in Construction or Civil Construction. Entry requirements may vary, but employers generally require Year 10. Training is usually both on and off the job. The off-the-job training is provided through Registered Training Organisations, including TAFE. Ask your career adviser about the possibility of starting some of this training in school.
- Job prospects** Construction workers work for large construction firms and smaller building subcontractors. They work on the construction of a range of types of buildings, including residential houses, apartment complexes, shopping centres, offices, hotels, factories, tourist resorts, hospitals and schools. Construction workers also work on heavy industrial or civil construction sites, road, tunnel and shaft excavations, demolition sites or local government works.
- On completion of a job, construction workers may have to apply to new sites for their next job. If they work for a civil, building or trade subcontractor (e.g. bricklayer), new work sites may be organised for them. Employment opportunities can vary greatly in line with trends in the civil or building and construction industries.
- Specialisation** Construction workers may specialise by working with particular tradespeople as a trade's assistant, such as a plasterer's or bricklayer's labourer, or a carpenter's assistant.
- With experience and/or further onsite or short-course training, they may also advance to positions such as concrete workers, doggers, riggers, scaffolders or steel fixers.
- Construction workers mostly work outdoors.
- Further information**
- Australian Institute of Building [www.aib.org.au]
 - Master Builders Australia [www.masterbuilders.com.au]
 - Australian Apprenticeship pathways [www.aapathways.com.au]

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