

Floor Finisher



- Alternate title** Carpet Layer; Floor Sander; Hard Floor Finisher; Resilient Layer; Textile Layer; Vinyl Layer
- Description** Floor Finishers install and repair floor coverings such as carpet, vinyl, rubber, cork, parquetry and timber floors.
- Floor Finishers work in small teams. Conditions can be dusty, and the work involves a lot of bending, stretching, kneeling and carrying. Floor finishers and coverers have a high level of contact with the public, builders, retailers and other tradespeople.
- Typical duties**
- make sure that floors are firm, dry and clean, and repair minor defects before laying coverings;
 - measure areas to be covered, and estimate and order quantities of floor coverings;
 - fix underlays of hardboard sheets, rubber or felt;
 - lay covering materials over the floor, match patterns, cut shapes around fixtures and trim edges;
 - fix floor coverings and fit edge trims in doorways;
 - sand, stain and finish a variety of timber floors.
- Personal requirements**
- physically fit;
 - interested in practical work;
 - good hand-eye coordination;
 - normal colour vision
 - logical thinker
- Qualification**
- Certificate II in Flooring Technology
 - Certificate III in Flooring Technology



Entry pathway Applicants to this career will need to complete an apprenticeship. Year 10 or equivalent with Maths and English is recommended.

Apprentices must be employed before enrolling in TAFE trade courses. Preference is often given to those who have completed a VET in schools program in construction, pre-vocational or pre-apprenticeship training.

Job prospects It is a medium sized occupation with reasonable employment prospects. Many Floor Finishers and Coverers set up their own businesses and work as subcontractors to retailers or floor covering firms. A few work for retail organisations and may combine the duties of retail sales and floor covering.

Trade qualifications are sought after, but are not essential. Demand is subject to periodic fluctuations in building activity. Qualified tradespeople are less likely to be affected by downturns in demand. This may vary from region to region.

Specialisation

- Hard Floor Finisher
- Resilient Layer
- Textile Layer

Further information

- Australian Timber Flooring Association [www.atfa.com.au]
- Carpet Institute of Australia [www.carpetinstitute.com.au]
- Group Training Australia [www.gtaltd.com.au/]

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