

Plasterer Fibrous



Alternate title Wall and Ceiling Fixer

Description Fibrous plasterers make, apply and fix the internal linings of commercial and domestic buildings.

Fibrous plasterers usually work in dusty conditions. They may have contact with the public.

Typical duties

- measure room walls, work out plasterboard layout and install insulation and moisture barriers;
- measure and mark cutting lines on plasterboard;
- cut plasterboard, lift and position panels, and nail, screw or glue them to walls, ceilings or wooden strips called battens;
- prepare corner beading panel mouldings, ceiling centres and other plaster fittings;
- cover joints and nail holes with wet plaster or sealing compounds and smooth them using wet brushes and sand paper;
- install fire-rated wall barriers;
- spray fibrous materials over surfaces to be covered;
- install acoustic walls and treatments;
- make fibrous plaster moulds in factories.

Personal requirements

- enjoy practical work;
- good hand-eye coordination;
- able to work at heights;
- able to do neat and accurate work;
- able to read and interpret plans.

Qualification Certificate III in Wall and Ceiling Lining



Entry pathway Entry to this occupation is by way of an apprenticeship.

Pre-apprenticeship courses are available in some States. There are no formal education requirements to gain entry into these courses, though preference is given to applicants sponsored by employers. These courses may be used to gain credit for apprenticeship courses.

Job prospects Fibrous plasterers are employed by plastering subcontracting firms and in companies which manufacture plaster products. The demand for fibrous plasterers depends mainly on activity in the building industry, particularly the housing sector. Factors which affect the building industry and new housing projects, such as government policy on interest rates affect the demand for fibrous plasterers.

The vacancy level for Fibrous Plasterers is high. Vacancies arising from job changing (Fibrous Plasterers changing employers) are expected to provide 49 per cent of vacancies, compared with 46 per cent from job openings (Fibrous Plasterers leaving the occupation) and 5 per cent from new jobs.

Specialisations

- fixers who install plasterboard sheets and cornices in buildings;
- sheet hands who make fibrous enrichments;
- mould hands who make plaster moulds.

Related Jobs

- Painter and Decorator
- Plasterer – Solid
- Tiler – Wall and Floor

Further information

- Association of Wall and Ceiling Industries Australia and New Zealand [www.awci.org.au]
- Be Constructive [www.beconstructive.com.au/]
- Group Training Australia [www.gtaltd.com.au/]

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