



## Concreter

**Alternate title** Concrete Worker

**Description** Concreters place, spread, compact, finish and cure concrete for buildings, roads, tunnels, bridges and marine structures, using hand tools, vibrators, pumps, trowelling machinery and other power tools. For most jobs, concrete is mixed at a re-mix concrete supplier's factory and delivered to the site in a pre-mix concrete truck. Concreters usually work either outside on construction sites or in concrete slab manufacturing plants.

### Job Prospects/Employment Opportunities

The majority of concreters are employed on building and construction sites by building and construction companies, or by sub-contractors or Group Training Companies. A small amount of work is generated by other uses of concrete (e.g. kerbing, driveways, paths and retaining walls). With experience or formal training, labourers may progress to skilled positions.

This is a large occupation and employment prospects vary according to activity within the construction industry. Given the high level of building activity in South Australia at the moment, demand is likely to be good.

- Typical Duties**
- Mix cement, gravel, sand and water, etc., to make concrete on site
  - Move concrete into position using a concrete pump
  - Place concrete into the formwork (usually temporary wood or steel moulds), making sure that it is spread and levelled, then compacted using vibrators
  - Operate paving and trowelling machines to float, trowel and polish the concrete surface
  - Create different surface textures by tamping, smoothing and shaping the concrete surface with a variety of hand tools
  - Cut joints into hardened concrete
  - Mix and apply pigments when a coloured surface is required
  - Dig foundation trenches if working on residential or small commercial projects

### Personal Requirements

- Physically fit as the work involves heavy lifting;
- Enjoy practical work;
- Enjoy outdoor work

### Work Conditions

Concreters usually work outside on construction sites which may be dusty and noisy. Much of their time is spent standing or kneeling and they may also have to work at heights or underground in tunnels. Concreters may travel from job to job and usually begin work very early in the morning.

**Entry Pathway** You can work as a concreter without formal qualifications. You will get training on the job.

You can also become a concreter through apprenticeships in either Concreting or Civil Construction. Entry requirements may vary, but employers generally require Year 10.

Some people may complete a pre-apprenticeship or pre-vocational course before entering an apprenticeship. If you are still at school, **doorways2construction™** is the best first step into this career. Ask your VET coordinator for more details.

### Additional Information

Once you are employed, you may be able to develop, and have recognised, additional skills under the Civil or General Construction Training Packages that will expand your career opportunities within this industry.

### Course or Training Package

Certificate III in Concreting  
Certificate II in Civil Construction  
Certificate III in Civil Construction

### Specialisations

Concreters may specialise as concrete finishers or concrete slab layers. There are large differences in the work done by concreters working on high-rise buildings and those working on smaller residential and commercial buildings.

There is a growing industry in pre-cast concrete where concrete elements are cast and cured in factories and then transported to the site for use.

**Related Jobs**

- Construction Worker
- Road Worker
- Bricklayer

### Further information

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- CITB [[www.citb.org.au](http://www.citb.org.au)]
- Construction Industry Skills Board [<http://www.constructionskills.com.au>]
- **doorways2construction™** [<http://www.doorways2construction.org.au/>]
- Construction Forestry Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU) [<http://www.cfmeu.asn.au/construction/states/sa/>]
- Housing Industry Association [<http://hia.com.au/hia/region/SA.aspx>]
- Master Builder's Association [<http://www.mbasa.com.au/scripts/cgijp.exe/WService=MBASA/ccms.r>]
- Big Plans [[www.bigplans.com.au/](http://www.bigplans.com.au/)]
- Be Constructive [[www.beconstructive.com.au/](http://www.beconstructive.com.au/)]