



Construction Worker

Alternate Title Builder's Labourer

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

Construction workers work with other tradespeople on building and construction sites. They mostly work outdoors.

Job prospects

Construction workers are employed by building and construction firms and subcontractors. Demand fluctuates depending on the state of the building industry and availability of work in both public and private sectors.

The vacancy level for construction workers is very high as there is a high level of turnover. Given the high level of building activity in South Australia at the moment, it is anticipated that construction workers are currently in high demand.

- Typical Duties**
- Unload, carry and stack building materials and place tools and equipment in position
 - Dig trenches for footings and services using hand tools and jackhammers if necessary to break up rock and concrete
 - 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
 - Clean surfaces for painters

Personal Requirements

- Physically fit;
- Enjoy practical work;
- Able to work as part of a team;
- Able to work at a constant pace;
- Like outdoor work;
- Able to follow precise directions

Work Conditions

Construction workers work with other tradespeople on building and construction sites. They mostly work outdoors.

Entry pathway You can work as a construction worker without formal qualifications. Practical skills are usually considered more important than level of education. You will probably get some informal training on the job.

You can also become a construction worker through a traineeship in Civil Construction. Entry requirements may vary, but employers generally require Year 10. Ask your career adviser about the possibility of starting some of this training in school. Certificate I or II training is available for some jobs.

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

Courses

- Certificate II in General Construction
- Certificate II in Civil Construction

(Please note CITB does not fund Certificate II in General Construction)

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.

Specialisations Construction workers may specialise by working with particular tradespeople as a trades assistant, such as a bricklayer's labourer or carpenter's assistant. With experience and/or further training, they may also advance to positions such as concrete workers, doggers, riggers, scaffolders or steel fixers.

Related Jobs

- Concreter
- Council Worker (Outdoor)
- Dogger
- Rigger
- Road Worker
- Scaffolder

Further information

- CITB [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/>]
- Big Plans [www.bigplans.com.au/]
- Be Constructive [www.beconstructive.com.au/]