

Career Profile: Building Inspector



A Building Inspector is a person authorised to inspect houses and commercial projects to ensure compliance with plans, regulations and to check workmanship.

A Building Inspector will carry out an assessment of a building once complete to ensure safety, regulations, policies and expected work has been met by the builder. This will then be reported to the client and builder.

Building Inspectors must have a builder's registration.

What would my working day look like?

Some of the tasks you may complete are:

- ▶ Inspecting structures using engineering skills and determining structural soundness
- ▶ Ensuring compliance with relevant regulations, client and contract specifications
- ▶ Reporting on findings from inspections to Australian standards
- ▶ Understand and interpret building, planning and safety regulations
- ▶ Use instruments to perform inspections including measuring and testing equipment
- ▶ Have a sound knowledge of the construction process of the project you are working on
- ▶ Maintain accurate records of inspections and compile reports
- ▶ Understand and interpret plans, blueprints, specifications and construction methods to ensure compliance
- ▶ Communicate with the client and Building Contractor
- ▶ Take and record accurate measurements of structures and fixtures
- ▶ Work safely and within the occupational health and safety regulations

I might enjoy this job if:

- ▶ enjoy building things and enjoy technical activities
- ▶ I am good at Maths, English, Design and Technology, Engineering studies, Legal studies and manual studies such as woodwork
- ▶ I like fault finding and investigating why things like appliances or tools don't work how they should
- ▶ I enjoy working with other people
- ▶ I like working indoors, outdoors, at heights and in tight spaces

Working conditions and hours

Building Inspectors can work on many different types of jobs including residential, civil and commercial construction. You will often be out on site conducting the inspection then working in an office to compile reports. You will work full time (generally 44+ hours per week).

How do I become a Building Inspector?

To be a Building Inspector you usually need to be a Registered Builder with relevant building experience and registrations and hold a qualification in building surveying. If you're still at school, you can enrol in the Certificate II in Building and Construction-Trades pathway to get started on a trade qualification. Otherwise, you may like to complete a Certificate III trades qualification as an apprenticeship, which usually takes 36-48 months to complete and includes on the job training with an employer.

You will then need to complete the following qualifications:

Diploma	Advanced Diploma
Building and Construction (Building)	Building and Construction - Building

Future pathways and opportunities

You can specialise in a specific area, sector or even start your own business!

With further study at University your career could lead you to become a Construction Manager, Project Manager or Quantity Surveyor.

Average Pay

Up to **\$1,838** per week depending on your qualifications, experience and amount of work scheduled.
(Source: Job Outlook)

What skills and personal qualities do I need?

- ▶ Enjoy technical work
- ▶ Have a careful, methodical and accurate approach to work
- ▶ Have good written and oral communication and interpersonal skills
- ▶ The ability to analyse and troubleshoot information
- ▶ Have strong maths and literacy skills
- ▶ Have critical thinking skills, can think on your feet and have good reasoning skills
- ▶ Enjoy working outdoors and be physically fit for the physical demands of the job



Next Steps

Further information can be found at:

- ▶ Jobs and Skills WA – www.jobsandskills.wa.gov.au
- ▶ Australian Apprenticeship Pathways – www.aapathways.com.au
- ▶ Australian Apprenticeship Support Network Providers – www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au
- ▶ Job Outlook – www.joboutlook.gov.au