

Career Profile: Bricklayer



Bricklaying is a skilled trade using masonry materials such as clay bricks, concrete blocks, mortar, lintels, cement or pre-cut stone to repair and construct a variety of structures including walls, retaining walls, chimneys, decorative arches and fireplaces in residential housing and commercial projects

Qualification

Certificate III in Bricklaying/Blocklaying

Sector

Residential / Commercial

What does a typical day look like?

Your day may include:

- ▶ Preparing and laying brick, stone, concrete blocks and other masonry materials to build or repair walls, partitions, fireplaces and other structures
- ▶ Using machines and tools to cut and lay bricks, mixing mortar using a cement mixer and shovel, pushing wheel and pack barrows, shovelling, and checking your work using profiles, lines and levels
- ▶ Reading, interpreting and working from plans, drawings and blueprints
- ▶ Estimating and calculating the amount of materials required for a project
- ▶ Sealing foundations, repairing and maintaining structures
- ▶ Clearing your worksite and keeping it clean whilst following occupational health and safety requirements

Work Conditions & Hours

- ▶ Usually working outside in all types of weather conditions and travelling between sites once each job is complete
- ▶ May be required to work at heights and in tunnels or tight spaces

- ▶ May work full time (generally 44+ hours per week) and are expected to start work early in the morning with some weekend work depending on how much work is available

Skills and personal qualities

- ▶ Enjoy manual and physical work – good level of fitness
- ▶ Be able to follow plans and value accuracy
- ▶ Like variety and working outdoors
- ▶ Be able to work as part of a team and ok working at heights
- ▶ Enjoy maths, design and technology and manual studies such as woodwork

How to get started

To become a fully qualified tradesperson you will need to complete an apprenticeship, Certificate III in Bricklaying and Blocklaying. You can get a head start on this career by completing a pre-apprenticeship course to gain a Certificate II in Building and Construction (Pathway - Trades).

Future Pathways and opportunities

- ▶ Site supervisor
- ▶ Construction manager
- ▶ Registered builder
- ▶ Building Inspector
- ▶ Business owner or sub-contractor
- ▶ Trainer/Assessor



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