

A World of Opportunity

In the "World of Construction" the future of our cities, hospitals, schools, churches and our nation depends on the construction industry and the youth it trains today to meet the needs and challenges of tomorrow. The guidance counselors of our secondary schools are the source on which the community and the "World of Construction" must rely. They must counsel and advise students toward the educational preparation they must have to enter the largest industry in the world.

What is an Apprentice?

An apprentice is one who learns to become a skilled craftsman through planned, supervised, on the job work, in addition to related classroom instruction. The apprentice is a regular part of the workforce, which earns high wages, and the apprentice acquires important skills in the process. The apprentice training period of skilled occupations ranges from 4-5 years. An apprentice is taught the proper use, care and safe handling of tools and equipment connected with his work. Classroom work is required in subjects related to the trade which allows the apprentice well-balanced vocational training.

Earn While You Learn

The apprentice earns while learning. The more the apprentice learns, the higher the pay is. Starting pay is at least 50% of a Journeyman's wage, and as the apprentice accumulates an established number of on the job hours, wages are increased at regular intervals. At the end of the term of apprenticeship, the person graduates to Journeyman status and will receive full pay for the skill.

Advancement Opportunities

The Apprentice of today is the foreman, superintendent, and contractor of tomorrow! Once the apprentice advances to Journeyman status, the ambitious tradesperson does not need to stop advancing. As the Journeyman improves his or her skills, supervisory positions become available. Advancement, of course, depends on the merits of the individual. Those individuals having extra drive can advance to the positions of job estimator, project superintendent, vice-president and even president of a company.

Training is Good Insurance

Training in the construction trades is good insurance. In addition to opportunities for promotion and steady employment, it gives a lifelong increased earning capacity which will enable one to get and keep a well paying job anywhere in the country. Skilled hands and a trained mind, produce a strong feeling of security.

How to Prepare

Today in the "World of Construction" most tradespersons are drawn from the ranks of high school graduates. The importance of staying in school cannot be overemphasized, and the smart person will take as many courses as possible in high school that will help them on the path to a successful career after graduation. The following pages offer descriptions of many good career opportunities as well as information on how to prepare for these careers.

Supervision

To assure proper training and progress of the apprentice, both federal and state governments establish rules and regulations which supervise the progress of the trainee. Every apprenticeship program must adhere to regulations and standards which are registered with the Indiana State Employment Service. The Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, U.S. Department of Labor, assists in the formulation of and the carrying out of the standards.

What a Bricklayer Does

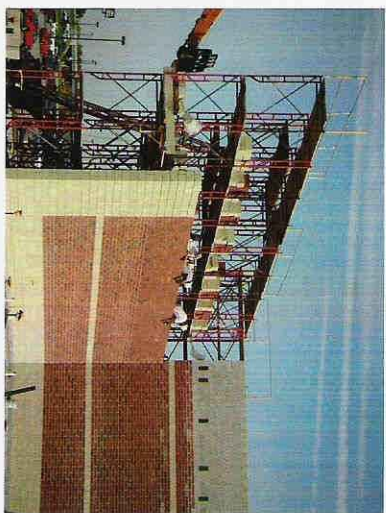
The work of the modern Bricklayer touches almost all aspects of building—Industrial and commercial building, apartments and homes. A Bricklayer constructs walls, partitions, fireplaces, chimneys and other structural forms from brick or other masonry materials such as firebrick, concrete, cinder or gypsum block, structural tile, terracotta, and stone. They work with any materials put together with mortar using the trowel, chisel, jointer, brick hammer for cutting bricks and power brick cutting saws. They understand and work from blueprints. They also use measuring, leveling and aligning tools to check their work.

Working Conditions

Much of the work is out of doors and generally depends on suitable weather conditions. Modern construction methods along with heater and plastic enclosures stretch the season for bricklaying construction making it less dependent on good weather. Bricklayers are on their feet all day and do considerable stooping and bending. At times, work is done from scaffolding which may be high above the ground.

Interest and Temperament

A person interested in this field would be involved in a variety of duties requiring fairly close tolerances, limits, or standards. Bricklaying requires careful, accurate work by the craftsman. To be a Bricklayer, one should enjoy working with one's hands and accept working outside under many different weather conditions. Good eyesight is especially important to quickly determine lines and level. Manual dexterity is also important.



What a Ceramic Tile & Terrazzo Worker Does

The work of a modern tile & terrazzo mechanic consists of cutting and placing ceramic tile in thin set in all types of construction, from floors to walls, to even countertops. A terrazzo worker installs floors which consist of marble chips and cement and when ground smooth reveal a brilliant walking surface of many colors and designs. They work with trowels and cement type materials. They understand and work from blueprints.

Working Conditions

Much of the work is done indoors. Tile and terrazzo workers are mostly working at floor level, and spend a considerable amount of time kneeling.

Interest and Temperament

A person interested in this field would be involved in a variety of duties requiring fairly close tolerances, limits, or standards. Tile setting and terrazzo installing requires careful and accurate work by the craftworker. You should enjoy working with your hands, placing small units in a pattern to form a large effect. Good eyesight is especially important to quickly determine lines and level. Manual dexterity is also important.

