



BUILDERS



Builders are skilled workers who construct, repair, and maintain buildings and other structures. They play a key role in creating homes, schools, offices, and roads. Being a builder is a hands-on job that requires practical skills, teamwork, and attention to detail.

WHAT BUILDERS DO

Builders carry out many different tasks depending on their specialisation. Some work on bricklaying, carpentry, or plumbing, while others handle roofing, painting, or electrical work. Builders read plans, measure materials, mix cement, and use tools and machinery to complete construction projects safely and efficiently. They may also work on renovations or repairs of existing buildings.

SKILLS AND PERSONAL QUALITIES

Builders need to be practical, patient, and physically fit, as the work can be physically demanding. Good problem-solving skills and attention to detail are essential for making sure buildings are safe and well-constructed. Builders must also be team players, as they often work with other tradespeople on a project.

QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED

There are several ways to become a builder. Many start by completing apprenticeships, where they learn skills on the job while earning a wage. Others study construction or building courses at college. Some builders specialise further by training in areas such as plumbing, carpentry, or electrical work. While formal education is not always required, gaining qualifications can improve job prospects and allow for career progression.

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Practical experience is essential for builders. Apprenticeships, work placements, and volunteering on construction sites help develop skills in using tools, reading plans, and following safety procedures. Builders also need to keep up to date with building regulations, health and safety rules, and new construction techniques.

WHERE BUILDERS WORK

Builders work in a variety of settings, including residential homes, schools, office buildings, roads, and bridges. Some work for construction companies, while others are self-employed and take on their own projects. The work can be indoors or outdoors, and sometimes in all kinds of weather conditions.



REWARDS AND CHALLENGES

Being a builder can be physically demanding and sometimes dangerous, but it is also very rewarding. Builders see the results of their work in completed structures that last for years. The job allows for creativity, problem-solving, and a sense of accomplishment from building something tangible that helps people every day.

Builders are essential to our communities, creating and maintaining the structures we use every day. The path into building involves practical training, skill development, and hands-on experience, but it offers a satisfying and respected career for those who enjoy working with their hands and seeing results from their effort.

Find out more

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrqst39#zrh3bqt>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Sd2URRIKAQ>

Example Questions

- What roles do builders have?
- True or False. Being a builder is a hands-on job.
- What are some examples of work a builder does?
- Which routes can people take to become a builder?
- What type of weather conditions can builders work in?

