



### What Carpenters Do

Carpenters are key to the success of a construction project. They **cut, shape, fit, and assemble** building materials to construct buildings, bridges, highways, docks, and industrial plants. Carpenters today build with wood, metal, concrete, plastics, composites of multiple materials, and more. Following blueprints, they **measure, lay out material, and then build** foundations, walls, floors, ceilings, and roofs. As a carpenter, you can specialize in areas like structural framework, concrete formwork, interior trim and cabinetry, commercial carpentry, and more. In this craft, you get to use cool power tools like pneumatic nail fasteners, power saws and drills, and laser leveling tools.

### How Much Can I Earn?

As an entry level apprentice or carpenter, you can start at \$8-\$10 per hour. As you learn and increase your skill set, you can quickly advance to \$12 per hour, or more. An experienced carpenter can make upwards of \$55,000 a year!

# carpentry



What Can I Expect from a Career in Carpentry?

Carpentry is challenging and satisfying work. **No day is ever the same.** Even the same job site is different each day. It can be **physically challenging** – there is lifting, climbing, and carrying involved. It is also **mentally challenging** – math, quick calculations, the ability to visualize, and the ability to make quick decisions are all part of the job. Someone who can do precise work and needs little supervision is a good candidate. **Carpenters are in high demand** for any given job. If you enjoy hands-on work, working outdoors, and seeing the results of your work, you can go far in this field.

How do I Get Started?

Contact your local ABC Chapter for information in your area on training and job opportunities. There are 80 ABC Chapters nationwide; you can find a complete listing on [www.abc.org](http://www.abc.org). Check out [www.trytools.org](http://www.trytools.org) for information on other craft careers. You can also email [constructioncareers@abc.org](mailto:constructioncareers@abc.org) for questions.

build an exciting career in construction