

Occupational Profile

Carpenters

WHAT THEY DO

Constructs, erects, installs or repairs structures and fixtures made of wood, such as concrete forms; building frameworks, including partitions, joists, studding, and rafters; wood stairways, window and door frames, and hardwood floors. May also install cabinets, siding, drywall and batt or roll insulation. Includes brattice builders who build doors or brattices (ventilation walls or partitions) in underground passageways to control the proper circulation of air through the passageways and to the working places. Belongs to the Architecture and Construction cluster and Construction pathway.



IS THIS FOR YOU?

Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model) by people who tend to succeed in this career:

- **Realistic** – You are a "doer". You like physical activities and projects. You like to find the answers to problems by doing hands-on work instead of talking about solutions.
- **Conventional** – You are an "organizer". Keeping things neat and organized is important to you. You like working with charts and reports, and work well with power and authority.

Work Values are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

- **Achievement** – It's very important to you that your work allows you to use your best abilities. You want to see the results of your work and get a feeling of accomplishment.
- **Independence** – It's very important to you that your work allows you to make decisions on your own. You want to try out your own ideas and work with little supervision.
- **Support** – It's very important to you to know the company stands behind its workers and has competent, considerate and fair management.

Aptitudes reflect a person's ability to acquire skills and knowledge. The following aptitudes are important for success in the career:

- **General Learning Ability**
- **Spatial Perception**
- **Form Perception**
- **Manual Dexterity**

SKILLS YOU NEED

Basic Skills:

- Critical Thinking

Transferable Skills (applicable in other careers):

High level

- Making large fixed structures and objects
- Repairing large fixed structures and objects
- Using construction hand and power tools
- Working as a member of a construction team

Medium level

- Constructing with brick, stone, and mortar
- Following construction blueprints and plans
- Following written construction work orders
- Sawing materials

Workplace Skills:

High level

- Equipment Maintenance
- Installation
- Judgment and Decision Making
- Management of Financial Resources
- Management of Material Resources
- Management of Personnel Resources
- Quality Control Analysis
- Time Management

Medium level

- Complex Problem Solving
- Coordination
- Equipment Selection
- Instructing
- Operation and Control
- Operation Monitoring
- Operations Analysis
- Persuasion
- Repairing
- Service Orientation
- Social Perceptiveness
- Technology Design
- Troubleshooting

Additional skills for this occupation may be found at <http://www.iowaworkforce.org/pubs/careers/cps>.

Source: <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2010 Estimated Employment	2020 Projected Employment	2010-20 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total All Occupations	1,717,020	1,948,700	231,680	1.3	64,525
Construction & Extraction Occupations	74,650	90,830	16,180	2.2	3,240
Carpenters	10,510	12,760	2,250	2.1	450

Source: <http://iwin.iwd.state.ia.us/pubs/statewide/stateoccproj.pdf>

2012 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Average Wage	Average Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Experienced Wage	Experienced Salary
Total All Occupations	18.90	39,295	9.30	19,341	23.69	49,272
Construction & Extraction Occupations	19.50	40,561	12.75	26,514	22.88	47,586
Carpenters	18.52	38,523	12.71	26,436	21.43	44,567

Source: <http://iwin.iwd.state.ia.us/pubs/statewide/stateoccproj.pdf>

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education	Work Experience	Job Training
High School Diploma	None	Apprenticeship

Carpenters learn their trade through formal and informal training programs. Between 3 and 4 years of both on-the-job training and classroom instruction usually is needed to become a skilled carpenter. There are a number of ways to train, but a more formal training program often improves job opportunities. Some employers offer employees formal apprenticeships. These programs combine on-the-job training with related classroom instruction. Apprentices usually must be at least 18 years old and meet local requirements. Apprenticeship programs usually last 3 to 4 years, but length varies with the apprentice's skill. Approved apprenticeship programs/sponsors in Iowa can be found at http://access.bridges.com/ext/cp/custom_state_data/iowa_apprenticeship/4720310.htm.

Source: <http://iwin.iwd.state.ia.us/pubs/statewide/stateoccproj.pdf> and <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	4
Locating Information	4
Reading for Information	4

This ACT-developed credential demonstrates achievement and a certain level of workplace employability skills. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6).

Source: <http://www.act.org/workkeys/analysis/occup.html>



PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

(Where are Carpenters Employed?)

Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction
 Self Employed
 Specialty Trade Contractors
 Building Material & Garden Equipment & Supplies Dealers

Source: <http://iwin.iwd.state.ia.us/pubs/statewide/stateoccproj.pdf>

ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

This publication was produced by the Labor Market and Workforce Information Division of Iowa Workforce Development. Revisions and/or corrections made when necessary. Inquiries may be directed to Brent Paulson at 515.281.3439 or Brent.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov. Visit <http://iwin.iowaworkforce.org/> to obtain the latest workforce data and trends including this document under the **Publications** tab. Published 10/2013.