



Career Information Carpenter

Overview

Career Title: Carpenter

Industry/Field: Trades

The carpentry trade can be a stepping-stone to unlimited possibilities. Carpenters may advance to foreman, subcontractor, construction superintendent, or contractor. They are involved in every phase of construction and create the base buildings that most trades will follow in the construction cycle. Complete your Carpenter Apprenticeship education with Northern Lakes College and learn from field-experienced tradespeople so you are ready to hit the ground running. Start your carpenter trade certification today!

Date	February 2025 Updated
Required Education & Skills	<p>Hard skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skilled in using various carpentry tools, such as saws, drills, hammers and power tools. • Proficiency in fractions, decimals, geometry, and trigonometry for precise measurements and calculations • Ability to read and interpret blueprints and technical drawings • Ability to handle physically demanding tasks, including lifting heavy objects and working in various positions • Understanding building codes and regulations to ensure compliance with safety standards. <p>Soft skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective problem-solving skills to identify and resolve issues that may arise during construction projects. • Excellent communication skills to effectively collaborate with team members, clients, and other tradespeople. • Strong attention to detail to ensure precision and accuracy in measurements and construction work. • Ability to work independently with minimal supervision, demonstrating self-motivation and initiative. • Manual dexterity & physical strength and stamina.
Job Market & Outlook	<p>Current Demand: The demand for carpenter in Canada is currently strong and is expected to remain so in the coming years. The carpentry industry in Canada is experiencing a labor shortage. This means there are more job openings than there are qualified welders to fill them.</p> <p>Projected Growth: Between 2022 and 2031, there are expected to be around 37,900 new job openings for carpenters due to both expansion and replacement needs.</p> <p>Salary Information: These are average national salaries, experience, and geographical location will alter your salary. These figures can fluctuate based on factors such as industry demand certifications, and regional economic conditions. Alberta's average salary tends to be higher, reflecting the provincial demands and economic conditions.</p> <p>Entry-Level: \$45,800.00 Mid-Level: \$63,000.00</p>

Pros & Cons of this Career

Pros:

- Carpenters are in high demand across Canada, especially in regions with strong industrial and construction activities.
- Competitive wages, with opportunities to earn more with experience and specialization.
- Carpentry skills are essential in many industries, providing job security.
- Opportunities for advancement into supervisory roles or specialized fields like underwater welding.
- Potential to work in different locations, including international projects.

Cons:

- Carpentry can be physically demanding and may require long hours in challenging conditions.
- Exposure to hazards such as falls, cuts, and heavy lifting, requiring strict adherence to safety protocol
- Job availability can be affected by economic downturns, particularly in industries like construction and manufacturing.
- May require ongoing certification and training to stay current with industry standards.
- Often involves working outdoors in various weather conditions, which may not be suitable for everyone.

This information has been compiled using publicly accessible provincial and federal data sources.

