



CAREER PROFILES

Bricklayers:

Bricklayers lay bricks, concrete blocks, stone, and other similar materials to construct or repair walls, arches, chimneys, fireplaces, and other structures in accordance with blueprints and specifications. They perform a variety of residential, commercial, or industrial work.

Wage/Salary Information:

\$51,500 is the median annual salary found in local job-postings.

\$30.50/hour is the median wage reported locally.

Commonly listed Skills in Job Postings:

- Blueprint reading
- Teamwork
- Forklift driving
- Oral and written communication
- Self-motivated
- Work independently
- Detail oriented
- Problem solving
- Tool use
- Time management
- Management

Job Duties:

Bricklayers read sketches and blueprints to calculate materials required. Bricklayers cut and trim bricks and concrete blocks to specification and prepare and lay bricks, concrete blocks, stone, structural tiles, and similar materials to construct or repair walls, foundations, and other structures. They lay bricks or other masonry units to build residential or commercial chimneys and fireplaces, lay radial bricks to build masonry shells of industrial chimneys, and lay or install firebricks to line industrial chimneys and smokestacks. Bricklayers also construct and install prefabricated masonry units.

Working Conditions:

Bricklayers usually work outdoors during a 40-hour workweek. Some overtime may also be required to meet construction schedules. Workers may have to work longer hours when the weather is good.

Protective enclosures and portable heaters may be used to protect workers in poor weather conditions. Bricklayers must sometimes work at heights on scaffolding. In addition to hazards related to working at heights, the work site may also be noisy and dirty. The work is physically demanding and workers routinely lift heavy materials.

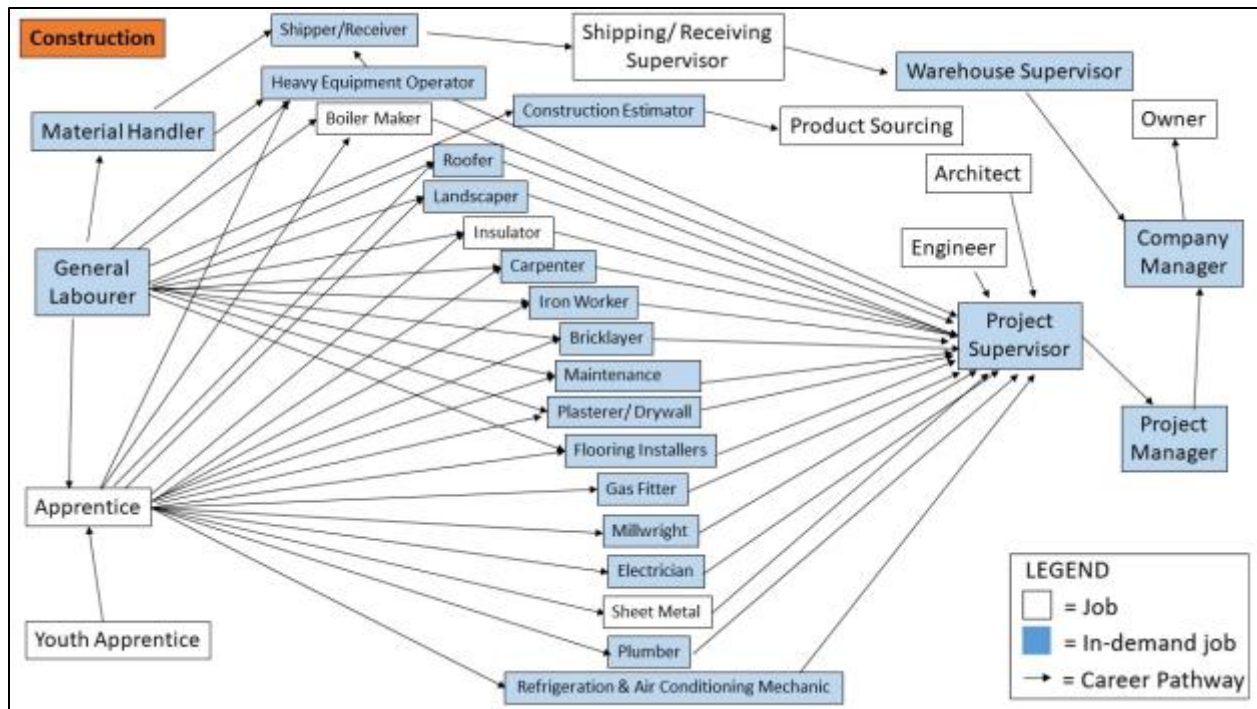
Safety precautions and the use of safety equipment (hard hats, steel-toed boots, and safety glasses) reduce risk of injury

Career Pathways:

Specific types of Bricklayers are classified in respect to the type of training that an individual received in the trade. Some of these classifications include, Brickmasons, Refractory Bricklayers, Stonecutters, Stonemasons, and Masons. Bricklaying is also an apprenticeable trade, should an individual want to become certified after completing an apprenticeship program or gaining the correct amount of work experience and challenging the exam.

Bricklayers are employed by construction companies and Bricklaying Contractors or they may be self-employed. Below are potential career paths for Bricklayers:

- Apprentice Bricklayer
- Artificial Stone Mason
- Brick Chimney Builder
- Bricklayer
- Brickmason
- Industrial Furnace Bricklayer
- Fire Brick Layer
- Refractory Bricklayer
- Stonecutter
- Stonemason
- Terra Cotta Mason



Education and Training Pathways:

If you're interested in becoming a Bricklayer, you can begin your apprenticeship or attend a local training/education program.

Apprenticeship Details:

Brick and Stone Mason

- Certification: Voluntary (not required to practice this profession in Ontario)
- Red Seal: Yes
- On-the-job training: 5,600 hours of combined on-the-job and in-class technical training
- In-class training: Three 8-week technical sessions

Refractory Mason

- Certification: Voluntary (not required to practice this profession in Ontario)
- Red Seal: Yes
- On-the-job training: 3,760 hours
- In-class training: 240 hours

Restoration Mason

- Certification: Voluntary (not required to practice this profession in Ontario)
- Red Seal: No
- Training: 6,000 hours of combined on-the-job and in-class technical training

Individuals interested in pursuing an apprenticeship pathway, should follow these steps:

- 1) Get hired – by an employer/sponsor/union
- 2) Apply online to register as an apprentice at www.ontario.ca/page/start-apprenticeship
- 3) Sign a training agreement with your employer/sponsor and the Employment Ontario apprenticeship office.
- 4) Become a Member of the Ontario College of Trades Apprentices Class at www.collegeoftrades.ca/membership
- 5) Keep a record of the hours you work
- 6) Achieve the competencies listed in your training standard if required in your trade
- 7) Complete all of the training requirements in your trade and you will receive a Certificate of Apprenticeship (CoA).
- 8) Write the Exam for the Certificate of Qualification if required in your trade

If you are currently in high school and would like to begin an apprenticeship, visit oyap.com for more information about the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program.

Individuals unsure about whether to pursue an apprenticeship or not, can learn more by visiting www.ontario.ca/page/prepare-apprenticeship.

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