

Carpentry Apprenticeship

Did you know?*

- About 32 percent of all carpenters- the largest construction trade- were self-employed.
- Job opportunities should be best for those with the most training and skills.
- Between 3 and 4 years of both on-the-job training and classroom instruction usually is needed to become a skilled carpenter.

*Statistics retrieved from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

What Does a Carpenter Do?

Carpenters construct, erect, install or repair structures and fixtures made of wood; concrete forms; building frameworks including partitions, joists, studding and rafters; wood stairways, window and door frames; and hardwood floors using carpentry hand and power tools. They build wood framing for houses, roofs, stairs, decks and sheaths, and forms for concrete and frame buildings, walls, footings, columns and stairs. The trade also involves carpentry work to install cabinets, siding, drywall rails, building cabinets and counter tops and may include work on drywall, wood flooring, metal jambs and ceilings. They are skilled in interior and exterior finish work and are able to read blueprints, measure accurately and calculate dimensions.

There are several different types of carpenters that specialize in one or more of these many tasks, including the following types:

[Construction Carpenter](http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/47-2031.01) go here > <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/47-2031.01>

[Interior Finish \(Drywall\)](http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/47-2081.00) go here > <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/47-2081.00>

[Cabinetmaker](http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/51-7011.00) go here > <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/51-7011.00>

How is the Training Structured?

- 2, 3 or 4 year training program depending on specific course of study
- 4,000, 6,000 or 8,000 hours on-the-job training depending on specific course of study
- 144 hours of related instruction per year
- Individual program requirements may vary by sponsor

What are the Application Requirements?

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age
- High school diploma or equivalent
- Physically able to perform trade
- Valid driver's license and reliable transportation

Additional Resources

The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics maintains information on all occupations. For more information on the Cabinetmaker/Woodworker trade in the United States, visit:

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/carpenters.htm#tab-1>

Who to Contact in Mississippi

For more information on becoming a carpenter contact MCEF at 601-605-2989.