Helping to build Indiana through careers in the Construction industry!
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### FINISH IT
“Construction” encompasses much more than just hammer and nails type jobs. It includes home building, commercial construction, industrial and roadway work as well.

Many of these jobs pay well, offer opportunities for advancement, and require little more than a high school education and an apprenticeship program.

It’s important to know there are other avenues for success that do not include a four-year college degree that often results in taking on student loans that leave you with a mountain of debt.

We hope this program creates awareness about all of the opportunities you didn’t know existed, eliminates the stigma of working in the industry, and shows that construction isn’t all about hammers and nails.

When you work in the construction industry, you’re a hot commodity. Homes and businesses always need building or renovating, roads always need paving, and the opportunities are plenty! It’s a secure job field, where you’ll find transferable skills to help you climb the ladder, figuratively (and maybe literally), to maybe even being your own boss someday.
A four-year college degree isn’t necessarily a requirement for many career paths in the construction industry. Success is achievable through different levels of education and/or experience. It’s important to know the differences in order to make educated decisions about the career path that is right for you.

**High School Diploma:** is typically studied for over the course of four years, from grade 9 to grade 12.

**GED:** stands for General Educational Development and is the process of earning the equivalent of your high school diploma, which is called a GED certificate or credential, if you pass the GED Test offered by the GED Testing Service.

**Associate’s Degree:** an undergraduate academic degree awarded by colleges and universities upon completion of a course of study intended to usually last two years. It is considered to be a greater level of education than a high school diploma or GED.

**Bachelor’s Degree:** an undergraduate academic degree awarded by colleges and universities upon completion of a course of study lasting three to seven years (depending on institution and academic discipline).

**Master’s Degree:** usually a second-cycle academic degree awarded by universities or colleges upon completion of a course of study demonstrating mastery or a high-order overview of a specific field of study or area of professional practice.

**Technical School:** (or sometimes referred to as a vocational school) is a two-year college that provides mostly employment-preparation skills required to perform the tasks of a specific job.

**Professional Certification/License or Trade Certification:** a designation earned by a person to assure qualification to perform a specific job or task. Professional certification is a process where a person develops the knowledge, experience, and skills to perform a specific job by completing a course of study. Upon completion, he or she receives a certificate earned by passing an exam that is accredited by an organization or association that monitors and upholds prescribed standards for the particular industry.
Apprenticeship Programs: are the oldest form of vocational education in the world, combining academic instruction with on-the-job training in a particular craft. Most of apprenticeship training takes place on job sites, but some learning occurs in the classroom too. Instead of paying for your education, you get paid to attend. Many Indiana apprenticeships offer a free college degree program as part of their curriculum. Construction apprenticeships give you the skills and knowledge needed for many in-demand jobs.

On-the-Job Experience: is just that! You learn the job while actually working in that job role. It requires a strong work ethic, self-motivation and a desire to learn.

FAST FACTS

80% of new skilled-trade jobs require less than a year of schooling.

Nearly 80% of construction businesses are struggling to fill skilled labor positions.

Associated General Contractors of America

Average starting salaries compared:

- Business: $41,200
- History: $36,900
- Psychology: $34,700
- Education: $33,800
- Skilled Trade: $48,110
Check out all of the careers involved in the Construction industry, organized chronologically from planning to building to finishing. Each provides a description, along with a snapshot of potential salary ranges and education requirements.

WHICH CAREERS ARE RIGHT FOR YOU?

Take the Career Match Quiz:

It’s fast and easy! Answer a few questions and see what careers might be a good match for you.

Visit Indiana.BYF.org/Quiz to get started.
PLAN IT

ACCOUNTANT • ARCHITECT/DRAFTSMAN • ATTORNEY • BUILDER/REMODELER • BUSINESS DEVELOPER • CIVIL ENGINEER • ENGINEER/LAND PLANNER/SURVEYOR • ESTIMATOR • MORTGAGE BROKER • NEW HOME SALES CONSULTANT • PROJECT MANAGER • REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER
Accountant

If you like to...
• Do research
• Solve problems
• Work with numbers
• Find trends and patterns
• Work indoors

...then you may just have a future as an Accountant.

Accountants are responsible for all finances involved in building — from preparing and examining financial records making sure they comply with law and regulations, to preparing tax returns and generating ways for the company to be more profitable.

Salary range: $35k to $60k to $160k
Education: Bachelor’s degree, CPA (certified public accountant) credential

Architect/Draftsman

If you like to...
• Be around people
• Do research
• Be creative
• Solve problems
• Work indoors
• Use technology

...then you may just have a future as an Architect.

Architects first listen to their client’s needs and desires. From there, they prepare drawings and give specifications for the project, as well as the total cost. Architects have more than just design skills — they also must understand engineering and math, and also be good at managing and communicating in order to make their vision come to life.

Salary range: $45k to $75k to $120k
Education: Bachelor’s degree

Attorney

If you like to...
• Be around people
• Do research
• Persuade others
• Be creative
• Work indoors
• Solve problems
• Find trends and patterns
• Perform under pressure

...then you may just have a future as an Attorney.

Attorneys in the construction industry represent builders and developers and assist with all the legal aspects of the building and development process. Specializing in this industry means knowing all of the construction laws and regulations and making sure your clients involved in the industry are in compliance with the laws.

Salary range: $73k to $110k to $400k+
Education: Undergraduate and 3 years of law school
Builder/Remodeler

If you like to...
• Be physically active
• Be around people
• Do research
• Persuade others
• Be creative
• Be outdoors
• Solve problems
• Find trends and patterns
• Perform under pressure
• Use technology

...then you may just have a future as a Homebuilder or a Remodeler.

Builders and Remodelers manage the teams that build and remodel homes and buildings. Beginning builders tend to prepare and clean sites, while assisting in the logistics of the process. More experienced builders help create budgets, blueprints and sketches. Being a builder requires a lot of problem-solving and interpersonal skills, as they work with people just as much as they work with wood and bricks.

Salary range: $50k to $85k to $250+k
Education: High school or GED and apprenticeship programs

Business Developer

If you like to...
• Be around people
• Do research
• Persuade others
• Be creative
• Be outdoors
• Solve problems
• Find trends and patterns
• Perform under pressure

...then you may just have a future as a Business Developer.

Business Developers work to create and maintain relationships and seek out new business opportunities. They act as the face of the construction-related company and develop relationships with other organizations with the end goal being that it may lead to more business.

Salary range: $45k to $80k to $300+k
Education: Bachelor’s degree in business, sometimes MBA
Civil Engineer

If you like to...
• Be around people
• Do research
• Be creative
• Be indoors and outdoors
• Solve problems
• Find trends and patterns
• Perform under pressure
• Use technology

...then you may just have a future as a Civil Engineer.

Civil engineers design, construct, supervise, operate and maintain large construction projects and systems, including roads, buildings, airports, tunnels, dams, bridges, and systems for water supply and sewage treatment. They spend time both in the office and on the project site.

Salary range: $50k to $70k to $111k
Education: Bachelor’s degree, Master’s degree or project management certification is required

Engineer/Land Planner/Surveyor

If you like to...
• Be physically active
• Solve problems
• Use technology
• Do research
• Spot trends and patterns

...then you may just have a future as an Engineer/Land Planner/Surveyor.

Engineers/Land Planners/Surveyors create plans for developing land after compiling data about the needs of the area. They do thorough resource reports, researching other housing developments, schools, parks, streets, and highways. They often meet with leaders, city officials, developers, and architects to help turn plans into reality.

Salary range: $30k to $60k to $100k+
Education: Undergraduate and Master’s degree in planning or a related field; certification may be required

Estimator

If you like to...
• Do research
• Find trends and patterns
• Work indoors
• Perform under pressure
• Solve problems

...then you may just have a future as an Estimator.

Estimators do exactly what you’d think they do…they estimate! They collect information in order to determine how much time, money, materials and labor it will take to build a house or structure. They create a bid by analyzing the numbers from information like blueprints to using software that calculates total cost.

Salary range: $35k to $60k to $100k
Education: Bachelor’s degree without experience, or high school if coming from construction field
**Mortgage Broker**

*If you like to...*
- Work with people
- Persuade others
- Do research and plan strategically
- Work indoors
- Solve problems and provide solutions
- Work independently

*...then you may just have a future as a Mortgage Broker.*

Mortgage Brokers work on behalf of the bank or lender. Their job is to provide competitive mortgage loan choices and ultimately the loan option that best fits the buyer’s needs. They do this by gathering information about the borrower, and then using the information to determine which option is most appropriate for the borrower.

**Salary range:** $30k to $70k to $170k  
**Education:** Bachelor’s degree and/or state licensing

**New Home Sales Consultant**

*If you like to...*
- Be around people
- Persuade others
- Be creative
- Solve problems
- Work indoors
- Perform under pressure
- Help people achieve their dreams

*...then you may just have a future as a New Home Sales Consultant.*

New Home Sales Consultants are the first resource buyers encounter when planning to build their home. It’s a sales consultant’s job to discover the buyer’s needs and desires of the home. They then use this information to help the buyer determine the right home site and floorplan to meet their requirements within their given budget.

**Salary range:** $75k to $125k to $200k  
**Education:** High school diploma or equivalent
Project Manager

If you like to...
- Be around people
- Persuade others
- Be creative
- Solve problems
- Work with details
- Perform under pressure

...then you may just have a future as a Project Manager.

Project Managers and construction managers keep projects running. Project managers are essential to completing projects on time and on budget. They plan, coordinate, budget and supervise construction projects from development to completion. Project managers may work from a main office, but they spend most of their time on site where they monitor projects and make daily decisions about construction activities.

Salary range: $46k to $66k to $110k

Education: Bachelor’s degree and on-the-job training through internships and apprenticeships

Real Estate Developer

If you like to...
- Do research
- Persuade others
- Be creative
- Solve problems
- Perform under pressure

...then you may just have a future as a Real Estate Developer.

Being a Real Estate Developer starts with identifying housing and commercial development needs. After that, they locate the land where that need can be met while understanding the zoning and financial processes involved in developing that land. Real Estate Developers work closely with engineers, contractors, land owners and government employees in order to find land, buy land and attract builders.

Salary range: $35k to $60k to $160k

Education: Bachelor’s degree, but experience is important
Carpenter

If you like to...
- Be physically active
- Be creative
- Be outdoors
- Solve problems
- Work under pressure
- Work with numbers and details

...then you may just have a future as a Carpenter.

Carpenters are responsible for interpreting and implementation of the architect’s/draftsman’s building plans. They erect the “skeleton” and are responsible for the structure of a home. Commercial and industrial carpenters construct, erect, install and repair structures and fixtures – from buildings to highways and bridges to power plants.

Salary range: $25k to $72k to $150k
Education: High school or GED; 3-4 years of apprenticeship experience

Concrete Worker

If you like to...
- Be physically active
- Be around people
- Be outdoors
- Be creative

...then you may just have a future as a Concrete Worker.

Concrete Workers plan and set up the space that needs concrete poured, then pour the concrete and finish it. They also repair concrete in addition to installing new concrete. Concrete workers must know how to use certain tools, work well with their team, and take initiative as they often work without much supervision.

Salary range: $25k to $60k to $80k
Education: High school or GED; apprenticeship

Craft / Construction Laborer

If you like to...
- Be physically active
- Be outdoors
- Solve problems

...then you may just have a future as a Craft Laborer.

Construction Laborers perform many basic tasks on construction sites and mostly work full time. Some work at great heights or outdoors in all weather conditions. This occupation would be a great way to get your foot in the door to other career opportunities in the construction industry.

Salary range: $23k to $38k to $68k
Education: High School education and apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools
Drywall Contractor

If you like to...

• Be physically active
• Be around people
• Solve problems

...then you may just have a future as a Drywall Contractor.

Drywall Contractors pick up where framing and insulation left off. Once everything that needs to go inside the walls is in, the Drywall Contractors come in. They measure, cut and install drywall that makes up the walls of a house or building.

Salary range: $20k to $50k to $120k

Education: High school or GED and apprenticeship programs

Energy Engineer

If you like to...

• If you like to…
• Be around people
• Do research
• Be creative
• Solve problems
• Find trends and patterns
• Use technology

...then you may just have a future as an Energy Engineer.

Energy Engineers oversee anything and everything relating to energy while building a home or building. From monitoring energy consumption to conducting assessments and audits, they make sure the structure meets energy standards and look for ways to reduce energy consumption.

Salary range: $50k to $78k to $93k

Education: Bachelor’s degree and often licensing

Geo-technical Engineer

If you like to...

• Do research
• Be outdoors
• Find trends and patterns
• Use technology

...then you may just have a future as a Geo-technical Engineer.

Geo-technical Engineers, a.k.a. Soil Scientists, have to know the “dirt” on dirt. They evaluate soil to understand the environmental impact of building a house or building on a specific piece of land. Geo-technical engineering utilizes the disciplines of rock and soil mechanics to investigate subsurface conditions. Geo-technical engineering evaluations also include a review of the geologic conditions. These investigations are used to design and build foundations, earth structures, and pavement sub-grades.

Salary range: $48k to $72k to $140k

Education: Bachelor’s degree and professional license & certifications
Heavy Machine Operator

If you like to...
• Be physically active
• Be around people
• Be outdoors
• Solve problems
• Work under pressure

...then you may just have a future as a Heavy Machine Operator.

Heavy equipment operators use machinery to move construction materials, earth, and other heavy materials at construction sites and mines. They know how to use a variety of machines — from jackhammers to dump truck to bulldozers. They operate equipment that clears and grades land to prepare it for construction of roads, buildings and bridges, as well as airport runways, power generation facilities, dams, levees and other structures. The work is physically demanding, and is mostly outdoors in various weather conditions and locations.

Salary range: $30k to $46k to $80k
Education: High school or GED; apprenticeship program or post-secondary program

Ironworker

If you like to...
• Be physically active
• Be around people
• Be outdoors
• Solve problems
• Work under pressure
• Work with math and details
• Use technology

...then you may just have a future as an Ironworker.

Ironworking is the ultimate in hands-on construction. Ironworkers place and install iron or steel girders, columns and other construction materials to form the infrastructure all around us. Ironworkers must always be paying attention to details to check vertical and horizontal alignment with plumb bobs, laser equipment, transits or levels – then they bolt or weld the piece permanently in place.

Salary range: $30k to $51k to $90k
Education: High school education, apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools
Mason

If you like to...
• Be physically active
• Be outdoors
• Solve problems

...then you may just have a future as a Mason.

Brickmasons, blockmasons, and stone masons read and interpret blueprints so that they can cut and measure materials such as bricks, pavers, or stone to the appropriate size. They then install the materials, enhancing the overall aesthetics of the home, building or structure. These craft professionals have created buildings, walls and roads for thousands of years and will continue to do so long into the future.

Salary range: $36k to $50k to $84k
Education: High school or GED and apprenticeship or 1-year training program

Millwright

If you like to...
• Be around people
• Do research
• Be outdoors
• Troubleshoot and solve problems
• Work under pressure

...then you may just have a future as a Millwright

Millwrights work on construction sites and in factories assembling and disassembling machinery. This work can involve intricate technical repairs or heavy machining tools, depending on the project. Millwrights have to be able to understand technical manuals for many different types of machines as well as have a high level of problem-solving skills.

Salary range: $33k to $58k to $78k
Education: High school education, apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools

Mobile Crane Operator

If you like to...
• Be physically active
• Be around people
• Be outdoors
• Solve problems
• Work under pressure
• Work with numbers

...then you may just have a future as a Mobile Crane Operator.

Mobile Crane Operators use state-of-the-art heavy machinery to move construction materials, earth and even petroleum products over short distances. A series of joysticks, levers and pedals allow the operator to use his or her knowledge of load calculations to place materials around a construction site.

Salary range: $32k to $60k to $94k
Education: High school education, apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools
Pipeline Operator

If you like to...
• Be physically active
• Be around people
• Be indoors and outdoors
• Solve problems
• Work under pressure
• Work with numbers
• Use technology

...then you may just have a future as a Pipeline Operator.

The pipeline industry has a wide range of opportunities, so whether you are looking to work with state-of-the-art technology in a control center, or travel as a service unit operator maintaining wells, there is a career for you. The derricks, pumps, and drilling systems that make up a pipeline system are made up of advanced machinery and require strict qualifications and safety practices. Other craft professionals such as pipefitters and welders can also use their skills in the pipeline industry.

Salary range: $38k to $62k to $90k
Education: Apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools

Rigger

If you like to...
• Be outdoors
• Interested in practical physics
• Be around people
• Solve problems

...then you may just have a future as a Rigger.

Riggers attach loads of construction equipment to cranes or structures using cables, pulleys and winches. Quick load calculations are necessary for each load and engineering principles are always in play. Riggers use various suspension techniques to get their load around obstacles on a construction site to the desired location.

Salary range: $28k to $38k to $81k
Education: High school, apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools

Roofer

If you like to...
• Be around people
• Be physically active
• Be outdoors
• Solve problems

...then you may just have a future as a Roofer.

Roofers use a variety of materials to build roofs and other surfaces. These materials include hot and cold applied built-up roofing and waterproofing, asphalt shingles, tile and other materials that protect surfaces from the outside elements. Teamwork is essential, as roofers work in crews.

Salary range: $25k to $36k to $60k
Education: Apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools
Sheet Metal Worker

If you like to...
• Be physically active
• Be around people
• Be indoors
• Solve problems
• Work under pressure
• Work with numbers
• Use technology

...then you may just have a future as a Sheet Metal Worker.

Sheet Metal Workers cut and mold sheets of metal into products for installing and repairing ventilation and air ducts. They also construct airplanes, automobiles and billboards. Most sheet metal fabrication shops are completely computerized, so sheet metal workers may be responsible for programming control systems on various pieces of equipment.

Salary range: $26k to $48k to $81k
Education: Two to three years of classroom and on-the-job training

Structural Engineer

If you like to...
• Do research
• Be creative
• Solve problems
• Find trends and patterns

...then you may just have a future as a Structural Engineer.

Structural Engineers take the architect’s design and decide what the best materials (steel, concrete, etc.) are to use given information like location or weather. They essentially make sure the “bones” of the house or building are appropriate for the environment it is being built in order to keep it standing.

Salary range: $60k to $78k to $120k
Education: Bachelor’s degree in civil engineering or structural engineering and professional licensing

Tower Crane Operator

If you like to...
• Be physically active
• Be outdoors
• Solve problems
• Use math and technology

...then you may just have a future as a Tower Crane Operator.

Tower Crane Operators use their knowledge of load calculations and crane operations to hoist heavy materials off the ground and to significant heights. They must have endurance, agility, and physical coordination, as well as great hand/eye coordination.

Salary range: $32k to $60k to $94k
Education: High school education, apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools
Welder

If you like to...
• Be physically active
• Solve problems
• Use math and technology
• Work under pressure

...then you may just have a future as a Welder.

Welders join objects together by applying heat or pressure. Skilled welders have a thorough knowledge of welding principals and metals. They use blueprints and drawings to build anything from ships to cars to bridges. Welders are also crucial in maintaining power plants of all types and have the opportunity to travel throughout the year.

Salary range: $25k to $35k to $50k

Education: Apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools

Wind Turbine Maintenance Technician

If you like to...
• Be physically active
• Be outdoors
• Solve problems

...then you may just have a future as a Wind Turbine Maintenance Technician.

Wind Turbine Maintenance Technicians are responsible for performing the complicated repairs and inspections on existing turbines. Sometimes these repairs take place at the very top of the turbine in the nacelle operating room that houses the instruments that measure wind speed and direction.

Salary range: $37k to $51k to $72k

Education: High school education, apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools
If you like to...
• Be physically active
• Be around people
• Be outdoors
• Solve problems
• Work under pressure
• Work with math and details
• Use technology

...then you may just have a future as a Boilermaker.

Check out this adventurous career where you can work with fire and use a variety of tools. Boilermakers’ job duties are versatile and require knowledge from other crafts. They work in a variety of areas, from power generation and paper mills to refineries. They make and install boilers and other large containers. Tasks include reading blueprints, welding or bolting pieces together and installing valves and supports. Boilermakers also perform routine maintenance.

Salary range: $44k to $70k to $88k
Education: High school education, apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools

If you like to...
• Be creative and solve problems
• Be precise and like the details
• Do research
• Work under pressure
• Be physically active

...then you may just have a future as a Cabinetry Specialist.

Cabinetry Specialists are experts in woodworking and must pay major attention to the details. They listen to the needs of their clients and then create custom cabinets that are both functional and aesthetically pleasing.

Salary range: $20k to $50k to $125k
Education: High school or GED

If you like to...
• Be physically active
• Be around people
• Do research
• Be creative and solve problems
• Be indoors and outdoors
• Find trends and patterns
• Perform under pressure
• Use technology

...then you may just have a future as an Electrician.

Electricians interpret calculations, perform inspections and maintain electrical equipment, and understand electrical schematics. Electricians install and maintain all of the electrical and power systems for our homes, businesses and factories. In large factories they may repair motors, transformers, generators, and electronic controllers on machine tools and industrial robots, as well as advise management as to whether the continued operation of certain equipment could be hazardous.

Salary range: $30k to $80k to $115k
Education: High school or GED; Associate’s degree or apprenticeship programs
Fireplace Specialist

If you like to...
- Work as a team
- Perform physical activity
- Work outside
- Learn technical data
- Solve problems

...then you may just have a future as a Fireplace Specialist.

Fireplaces are one of the unique products that turns a house into a home. Fireplace specialists blend the homeowner’s vision with the best fireplace for their particular application. Customer service skills and product knowledge are important, as are having an understanding of construction and remodeling practices.

Salary range: $50k to $64k to $93k
Education: High school or GED

Flooring Installer

If you like to...
- Be physically active
- Be precise and like the details
- Be creative
- Be around people
- Solve problems

...then you may just have a future as a Flooring Installer.

Flooring Installers clean and prepare areas, ensuring the space is safe. They then remove previous flooring, and/or install new flooring. Flooring installers typically need to be strong with good stamina.

Salary range: $20k to $50k to $125k
Education: High school or GED and apprenticeship programs

Glazier

If you like to...
- Be physically active
- Be creative
- Work with people
- Use math
- Work indoors and outdoors

...then you may just have a future as a Glazier.

Glaziers are true artisans who work with glass as their mediums. They select, cut, install, replace and remove residential, commercial and artistic glass. Glaziers use a variety of tools including glazing knives, saws, drills, grinders, putty and glazing compounds. They must work as a team when guiding and installing glass for large buildings.

Salary range: $28k to $40k to $76k
Education: High school education, apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools
Heating and Cooling (HVAC) Technician

If you like to...
- Be around people
- Do research
- Be outdoors
- Troubleshoot and solve problems
- Work under pressure

...then you may just have a future as a Heating and Cooling Technician.

Heating and Cooling Technicians travel to job sites where the heating and cooling systems need to be installed or repaired. They are always piecing things together as they install, maintain and repair heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems. They must understand how the systems work in order to troubleshoot any issues, and be able to install the equipment properly for efficient operation. Can’t decide between a career in mechanical systems or electronics? HVAC covers it all!

Salary range: $30k to $75k to $100k
Education: High school or GED and apprenticeship, technical school

Instrumentation Technician

If you like to...
- Be physically active
- Be around people
- Be indoors and outdoors
- Solve problems
- Work under pressure
- Work with numbers
- Use technology

...then you may just have a future as an Instrumentation Technician.

Instrument Fitters and Technicians perform key installation and maintenance functions across several industries and are trained in piping, tubing, fasteners, and metallurgy. Instrumentation Technicians and Fitters have to be familiar with electrical systems, craft-specific drawings, and must be experts in the hand and power tools specific to their trade.

Salary range: $28k to $42k to $85k
Education: Apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools

Insulation Contractor

If you like to...
- Be physically active
- Be around people
- Do research
- Solve problems

...then you may just have a future as an Insulation Contractor.

In the residential industry, Insulation Contractors make sure your house is warm during the winter and cool during the summer by installing insulation between walls in order to help save energy. In the commercial and industrial industries, they install insulation systems on piping, plumbing, HVAC systems, equipment and other processing systems in new construction, retrofit and maintenance projects.

Salary range: $27k to $42k to $72k
Education: High school or GED and apprenticeship programs
Interior Carpenter

**If you like to...**
- Be around people
- Do research
- Be creative
- Solve problems

...then you may just have a future as an Interior Carpenter.

Interior Carpenters follow the blueprints in order to measure, cut, and construct fixtures like windows and door frames. Interior Carpenters are responsible for working directly with builders and designers to develop the overall “look and feel” of a home or business space.

**Salary range:** $25k to $50k to $125k  
**Education:** High school or GED

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Interior Designer

**If you like to...**
- Be around people
- Do research
- Persuade others
- Be creative
- Solve problems
- Perform under pressure

...then you may just have a future as an Interior Designer.

Interior Designers consult with their clients in order to understand what their needs and style preferences are. They then sketch or generate a design digitally to show their clients. Once the design and budget are approved, designers shop and execute their plan.

**Salary range:** $30k to $66k to $80k  
**Education:** Bachelor’s degree

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Landscape Architect

**If you like to...**
- Be around people
- Do research
- Persuade others
- Be creative
- Be outdoors
- Solve problems
- Perform under pressure

...then you may just have a future as a Landscape Architect.

Landscape Architects are the designers of the outdoors. They plan and design outdoor spaces given their clients' needs and budgets. Landscape Architects consult with their clients, engineers, and architects in order to understand the project.

**Salary range:** $26k to $64k to $70k  
**Education:** Bachelor’s degree
**Landscape Contractor**

*If you like to...*
- Be physically active
- Be around people
- Persuade others
- Be creative
- Be outdoors
- Solve problems
- Perform under pressure

...then you may just have a future as a Landscape Contractor.

Landscape Contractors oversee the execution of the Landscape Architect. They do the heavy lifting or manage a team that does the physical labor in the outdoor space.

**Salary range:** $26k to $42k to $80k  
**Education:** High school or GED and apprenticeship programs

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**Paint Contractor**

*If you like to...*
- Be physically active
- Be creative
- Be indoors and outdoors

...then you may just have a future as a Paint Contractor.

Paint Contractors prepare and paint both the interior and exteriors of houses. It’s a physical job that requires a lot of climbing on ladders, bending, kneeling, and reaching. Painters are responsible for choosing and applying just the right paint, stain, varnish or other finish to homes, buildings and industrial structures. This career path ranges from industrial spray painters who apply coatings to prevent deterioration to decorative artisans who create faux finishes.

**Salary range:** $20k to $37k to $63k  
**Education:** High school or GED and apprenticeship programs

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**Pipefitter**

*If you like to...*
- Be physically active
- Be around people
- Be indoors and outdoors
- Solve problems
- Work under pressure
- Use math and technology

...then you may just have a future as Pipefitter.

Pipefitters plan and install detailed pipe systems for commercial and industrial projects. These pipes may carry water, chemicals, or gases to the crucial building systems. Pipefitters use many tools to cut and bend pipes to exact specifications.

**Salary range:** $32k to $58k to $88k  
**Education:** High school education, apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools
If you like to...

- Be physically active
- Be around people
- Be outdoors
- Solve problems
- Work with numbers
- Perform under pressure

...then you may just have a future as a Plumber.

Plumbers install all of the necessary pipes, fittings, clamps, and more to make sure everything flows smoothly and is up to code. Plumbers also install piping systems that distribute water and remove waste from buildings, and connect heating and cooling systems. They have to be knowledgeable in water distribution, reading blueprints, local ordinances and regulations, mathematics, mechanical drawing, physics, welding and soldering.

Salary range: $30k to $75k to $100k

Education: High school or GED and professional license

Sprinkler Fitter

If you like to...

- Be physically active
- Solve problems
- Use math and technology

...then you may just have a future as a Sprinkler Fitter.

Sprinkler Fitters design, install, and test automatic fire protection sprinkler systems and components such as sprinklers, piping and valves. They have to know all of the local and national sprinkler codes and make sure that everything meets those requirements.

Salary range: $27k to $54k to $88k

Education: High school or GED, apprenticeship programs, colleges, and technical schools