

Bricklaying skills provide My Future Freedom



Supported by Brick and Block Manufacturers of Australia



Bricklaying apprenticeships

There is a new generation of young bricklayers emerging. This group are fit, bright, ambitious and are focused on a successful and rewarding career. They know the options and freedom that bricklaying provides. You too can be part of this new generation. To work towards a qualification in bricklaying and even becoming a builder, is a great place to start your career and give you a wide range of rewarding choices of work and life experiences. Bricklaying can give you the freedom to choose your future.

Working outdoors

1 With bricklaying, your "office" can be anywhere, by the beach, on top of a city building, or in an idyllic country setting and every job provides a change of location, its never boring.

The all important qualification

2 A qualification in bricklaying (Certificate III) reflects the training and the skills you have gained as a fully qualified and competent tradesman. You can learn at your own pace and the combination of on the job and off the job training is a great mix to build your knowledge, skills and experience in bricklaying.



I built that

3 Bricklayers can say "I built this city" because they did and can see the results of their work. Bricks and blocks, more than any other products such as wiring and gas and water pipes, are on show to be admired. Bricklayers take great pride in the finished result and can truly say "I built that".

The pay just gets better

4 Bricklayers do very well these days and the skill shortages are creating more demand and more rewards for the trade. An apprentice gets paid to learn (unlike a university student) and the more skilled you get the more the pay just gets better.

Be your own boss

5 Bricklaying provides a great opportunity to be your own boss. There are many ambitious young bricklayers who look for responsibility, leadership opportunities and the freedom to run their own business. Running your own sub-contractor business gives you the opportunity to take charge and can be very rewarding, not only financially, but with the satisfaction of building and running your own team.

Freedom to travel

6 Bricklaying provides great opportunities to travel the country and the world. Just pack your trowel and your skills and set off on a journey of discovery. Bricklayers are needed all over the world so there is always a job waiting for you and an exciting experience that comes with travel.



Be part of a team

7 Teams that achieve success are teams that work together for each other. This is the culture of bricklaying gangs. Its teamwork that gets the job done, teamwork creates efficiency, meets on the job challenges and shares the load with your mates. If you work well in a team environment, then bricklaying is for you.



My fitness program

8 Cancel your gym membership. Bricklayers are among the fittest young people going around. Many are good at sport, have excellent hand-eye co-ordination and love the outdoor physical work. Of course, in years to come, you will be running your own gang or become a builder with more time to supervise and lead other young hands-on tradesmen.

I'm aiming to be a builder

9 There are only two structural construction trades, Bricklaying and carpentry. Both are pathways, if you want, to becoming a Builder. Gaining a qualification in bricklaying provides a great understanding and knowledge of building. Many bricklayers continue on to get their builders licence and are very successful. And it started with a bricklaying qualification.



Skill shortage creates opportunity

10 There is a shortage of skilled bricklayers in Australia. Less than 50% of the trade have a qualification. The shortage will get worse as the aging bricklayers retire or leave the trade. 47% of bricklayers are over the age of 40. Therefore a young qualified bricklayer has the world at his feet with plenty of work, great rewards and a great lifestyle. The future shortage will give you greater freedom of choice.



Clay brick and concrete masonry industry lays foundation for future qualified bricklayers



Australian Brick & Blocklaying Training Foundation Ltd (ABBTF) promotes the trade of bricklaying to young people to address the critical skill shortage of qualified bricklayers currently facing the Australian construction industry. In Australia, 47% of bricklayers are over the age of 40, 24% are over the age of 50 and around 8,000 are expected to leave the trade in the next ten years. Only 50% of these places will be filled by the current number of apprentices completing their training.

ABBTF represents brick and block manufacturers and has programs operating in all states and the ACT.

To achieve apprenticeship growth ABBTF has forged strong relationships with training providers of bricklaying by promoting bricklaying at open days and career expos.

ABBTF also run Step Out Programs in bricklaying. This gives students an opportunity to try bricklaying while still at school.

More than 11,500 students have participated in Step Out Programs

over the past four years. This has involved more than one thousand schools.

ABBTF support students completing pre-entry training which gives them the skills and knowledge to make them work ready and a valuable asset to their business.

ABBTF offer financial incentives to employers to take on an apprentice. These employers play a vital role in mentoring the next generation of bricklayers to ensure that valuable skills and craftsmanship are passed on.

A trade qualification is important as bricklaying is a valued trade in the construction industry and can lead to becoming a Builder or many other career path opportunities in the future.

The ABBTF scheme is jointly funded by an industry contribution on the sale of bricks and blocks which is matched by the brick and block manufacturers. This contribution adds less than \$16 to the cost of an average brick veneer home or \$40 for a full brick home.