

Carpenters

NOC: 72310

Carpenters build, install, renovate, maintain, and repair structures and components of structures made of wood, wood substitutes, lightweight steel, concrete, and other materials. They work for construction companies, carpentry contractors, and maintenance departments of factories, plants and other businesses, or they may be self-employed. Boat builders build, assemble and repair small commercial vessels used to navigate in, on through or above water using any method of propulsion. They work for boat building companies and repair shops.



Summary

Mid Wage:
\$24.00/hour

Mid Salary:
\$28,000.00

Min. Education:
Apprenticeship

Skills & Knowledge

Manual dexterity

Hand-eye coordination

Spatial perception and materials handling ability

An aptitude for math

Balance for working on scaffolding

Ability to follow and communicate written instructions

Ability to work as a team

Artistic ability is an asset

Enjoy creating things with their hands, working with wood, and mastering their craft

Working Conditions

Work takes place both indoors or outdoors, at heights, from ladders, rooftops, in confined spaces, and in hazardous settings. Working conditions



vary. Carpenters may work alone or in teams. A 40-hour workweek is common with routine overtime in peak periods. Risks include slips, falls, falling objects, and injuries from sharp hand and power tools. Carpenters must stand, crouch, and kneel for long periods. Often need to handle items weighing up to 25kg.

Day-to-Day Tasks

This group performs some or all of the following duties:

Read and interpret blueprints, drawings, and sketches to determine specifications and calculate requirements.

Prepare layouts that meet building codes using measuring tools.

Measure, cut, shape, assemble and join materials made of wood, wood substitutes, lightweight steel, and other materials.

Constructs formwork (concrete), framing, including floor systems, decks and wall systems, exterior and interior finishes and performs renovation specific activities.

Build foundations, install floor beams, lay subflooring and build walls and roof systems.

Fit and install trim items like doors, stairs, moulding, and hardware.

Maintain, repair, and renovate residences and wooden structures in mills, mines, hospitals, industrial plants and other businesses.

Supervise apprentices and other construction workers.

May prepare cost estimates for clients.



Use wood, fibre or glass-reinforced plastic, steel and other metals to build the hull of a vessel.

Use and maintain hand and power tools, dismantle, inspect, replace and assemble boat equipment and parts, install internal and external boat hardware fittings, build boat frameworks, build interior support structures for boats and install insulation.

Assembling sections of the boat like the rigging and mast if it is a sailing vessel or installing the engine.

Nova Scotia Insights

Carpenters can focus on specific areas like shaping, framing, finishing, interior systems, or remodeling. Jobs in construction are influenced by seasonal changes and the state of the economy, which means that work can be project-based, leading to periods of unemployment.

Experienced carpenters have opportunities to become forepersons or superintendents or even become self-employed. They can also transition into related roles like construction managers, project managers, supervisors, inspectors, home building managers, renovation managers, or contractors. Carpenters' comprehensive knowledge of different aspects of building construction can give them an advantage when applying for supervisory positions.

The apprenticeship system is open to everyone. Anyone who develops the necessary skills and abilities should be able to succeed in the trades and trade qualification system. Work environments in the province support women and equity-seeking communities. The Red Seal endorsement lets you work in different provinces.



Training & Experience



This is what you typically need for the job.

Carpenters:

High school or equivalent (usually).

Training through a 7,200-hour apprenticeship program with four apprenticeship levels: to become an apprentice you first need to have a job - enter an apprenticeship agreement either directly through an employer or after graduating from a college-level pre-apprenticeship program; learn on the job, mentored by a certified journeyperson who signs off on skills in a logbook.

Trade Qualifier option, 10,800 hours and other criteria.

Certification for Carpenters is voluntary in Nova Scotia.

Write and score a minimum of 70% on the Red Seal exam for Carpenters.

Red Seal Endorsement (RSE) allows for interprovincial mobility.

Boat Builders:

High school or equivalent (usually).

Training through a 5,400-hour apprenticeship program with three apprenticeship levels: to become an apprentice you first need to have a job - enter an apprenticeship agreement either directly through an employer or after completing industry training; learn on the job, mentored by a certified journeyperson who signs off on skills in a logbook.

Trade Qualifier option, 9,450 hours and other criteria.

Certification for Boat Builders is voluntary in Nova Scotia.



Regulatory Requirements

Boat Builder

Type:

Certificate of Qualification (Voluntary)

Description:

This is a designated trade in Nova Scotia. Employers may require certification, but a certificate is not needed to legally work in this trade.

Regulating Body:

Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency

Website:

<https://www.nsapprenticeship.ca/> 

Email:

apprenticeship@novascotia.ca

Carpenter

Type:

Certificate of Qualification (Voluntary)

Description:

This is a designated trade in Nova Scotia. Employers may require certification, but a certificate is not needed to legally work in this trade.

Regulating Body:

Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency

Website:



<https://www.nsapprenticeship.ca/> 

Email:

apprenticeship@novascotia.ca

Explore Programs in Nova Scotia

Community Colleges

[Carpenter Millwright College \(CMC\) Inc.](#) 

Carpentry Development Program (pre-apprenticeship)
Certificate

Lower Sackville

[Nova Scotia Community College](#) 

Carpentry (pre-apprenticeship)
Certificate

Bridgewater, Dartmouth, Wagmatcook

[Nova Scotia Community College](#) 

Carpentry (pre-apprenticeship)
Diploma

Dartmouth, Kentville, Port Hawkesbury, Springhill, Stellarton, Sydney

High Schools

[Adult High Schools](#) 



Adult Learning Program
Nova Scotia High School Graduation Diploma for Adults

Various

[Community Learning Organizations](#) 

Adult Learning Program
Nova Scotia High School Graduation Diploma for Adults

Various

[Nova Scotia Community College](#) 

Adult Learning Program
Nova Scotia High School Graduation Diploma for Adults

Amherst, Bridgewater, Dartmouth, Digby, Halifax, Kentville, Middleton,
Online, Port Hawkesbury, Shelburne, Springhill, Stellarton, Sydney,
Truro, Yarmouth

[Universite Sainte-Anne](#) 

Adult Learning Program
Nova Scotia High School Graduation Diploma for Adults

Church Point, Halifax, Petit-de-Grat, Saint-Joseph-du-Moine, Tusket

Trades

[Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency](#) 

Carpenter - Apprenticeship
Certificate of Qualification



Halifax

[Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency](#) 

Carpenter - Trade Qualifier
Certificate of Qualification

Halifax

[Nova Scotia Boatbuilders Association](#) 

Boat Builder - Apprenticeship
Certificate of Qualification

Halifax

[Nova Scotia Boatbuilders Association](#) 

Boat Builder - Trade Qualifier
Certificate of Qualification

Halifax

Nova Scotia Insights

A Journeyperson is a skilled trades professional who has successfully achieved a Certificate of Qualification in their trade.



Apprenticeship is a training program leading to certification in the skilled trades. It involves two main parts: supervised on-the-job training and classroom technical training.

There are four pathways to certification: direct entry, youth apprenticeship, pre-apprenticeship training, and trade qualifier.

Direct entry is taking a direct route to becoming an apprentice in a specific trade. You don't need a college certificate or diploma in the trade before starting. Instead, you find a job with an employer who's willing to train you as an apprentice, and then you register as an apprentice right away. It's a quicker way to begin your apprenticeship in a trade.

Youth Apprenticeship allows young people ages 16 to 19 to register as apprentices and earn hours even if they are still attending high school.

Pre-apprenticeship training programs are trade programs that can be counted as credit when you begin an apprenticeship. You can do a pre-apprenticeship program without an employer but need an employer to become an apprentice.

A Trade Qualifier is someone with substantial hands-on experience in a trade. They record their experience and get two reference letters from experienced tradespeople. They can take the certification exam without going through an apprenticeship. This is especially important for trades without formal apprenticeship programs, as it's the only way to become certified.

Career Outlook



Very Good



There is demand for workers in this field. Interested job seekers should be able to find work.

Job Market Insights

Size

This is a very large occupation in Nova Scotia.

Location

Regional insights are unavailable or inconclusive for this occupation.

Industries

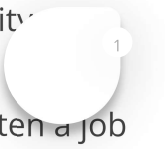
Most people in this occupation work in construction.

Employment Type

Most are employed part-time.

Nova Scotia Insights

Employment growth will lead to a moderate number of new positions. A moderate number of positions will become available due to retirements. There are a small number of unemployed workers with recent experience in this occupation. Due to the seasonal nature of this occupation, employment opportunities tend to be more favourable during the summer months. Carpenters are in high demand in many areas of mainland Nova Scotia, due in part to the high level of housing construction and renovation activity currently taking place. Opportunities for carpenters are not always advertised through traditional channels. Possession of a vehicle is often a job



requirement, which may be a barrier to some candidates. The limited supply of carpenters has prompted some employers or contractors to offer improved compensation, drawing workers from up to an hour away. It has also served to improve hiring prospects for recent graduates from carpentry programs, as well as jobseekers with experience but no formal training. Some employers may hire an applicant with little carpentry experience as a helper or labourer, but provide informal on-the-job carpentry training. Those pursuing a formal apprenticeship in carpentry may be challenged by a lack of existing Red Seal journeypersons who are able to supervise them. Opportunities are greatest for carpenters who are up to date on new and emerging technologies. Employment opportunities tend to be more favourable during the summer months

Where You Could Work

Possible workplaces you could get a job at.

Carpentry contractors

Construction companies

Maintenance departments of factories, plants and other establishments

Self-employment

Alternative Job Titles

Search these keywords to find similar opportunities.

Apprentice Carpenter

Boatbuilder



- Carpenter
- Construction Carpenter
- Framing Carpenter
- Journey person Carpenter
- Prefabricated House Carpenter
- Renovation Carpenter
- Rough Carpenter

Related Careers



Contractors and supervisors,
carpentry trades

Mid Wage:	Min. Education:
\$27.50/hour	College

 Add to Compare

 Save



Cabinetmakers

Mid Wage:	Min. Education:
N/A	Apprenticeship

 Add to Compare







Woodworking machine operators

Mid Wage:

N/A

Min. Education:

High School



Add to
Compare



Save

Industry Related Links

Resource

Service Provided

[Apprenticeship Pathways](#)

Pathway

[Atlantic Canada Regional Council of Carpenters, Millwrights and Allied Workers](#)



Training, Industry Information

[Atlantic Home Building and Renovation Sector Council](#)



Industry Information

[Atlantic Home Building and Renovation Sector Council](#)



Industry Information

[BuildForceCanada](#)



Industry Information

[Building Futures for Youth](#) ↗

Career Exploration

[Canadian Home Builders Association](#) ↗

Industry Information

[Cape Breton Island Building and Construction Trade Council](#) ↗

Industry Information

[Career Pathway - Carpenter](#) ↗

Pathway

[Careers in Construction](#) ↗

Career Exploration

[Careers in Energy](#) ↗

Industry Information

[Carpenter and Millwright Job Board](#) ↗

Job Board

[Construction Association of Nova Scotia](#) ↗

Events, Training

[Construction Safety Council of Nova Scotia](#) ↗

Training

[High School Skilled Trades Program](#) ↗

Training

[Mainland Nova Scotia Building Trades](#) ↗

Industry Information

[Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency](#) ↗

Licensing and Regulation

[Nova Scotia Boatbuilders Association](#) ↗

Training, Industry Information

[Nova Scotia Construction Sector Council](#) ↗

Industry Information

[NSBA Job Board](#) ↗

Job Board

[Red Seal](#) ↗

Industry Information

[Skills Canada-Nova Scotia](#) 

Career Exploration

[Techsploration](#) 

Career Exploration

[Trades Exhibition Hall](#) 

Career Exploration

[Video - Boatbuilder](#) 

Career Exploration

Hourly Wage

Starting

\$18.00

Median

\$24.00

Maximum

\$35.00

Annual Pay

Starting

\$4,560.00

Median

\$28,000.00

Maximum

\$61,200.00

Wage Information

How are wages displayed on Nova Scotia Works Online?

For most occupations on NSW Online Low, Mid and High wage estimates are displayed. Both hourly rates and annual incomes are estimated.

N/A will display if wage data is unavailable.

How are the wages calculated?



The wages are calculated using a standard approach developed by Employment and Social Development Canada and the Service Canada regional offices, in consultation with Statistics Canada.

Hourly earnings are calculated based on usual hours worked per week. This is how an annual salary, for instance, gets converted to an hourly rate. The data include full and part-time workers along with new and experienced workers. Self-employment workers are excluded.

In addition, wages are adjusted to reflect the current minimum wage in Nova Scotia.

