

Bricklayer and Stonemason

Bricklayers and stonemasons lay bricks, pre-cut stones and other types of building blocks in mortar to construct and repair walls, partitions, arches and other structures, and cut and shape hard and soft stone blocks and masonry slabs for the construction and renovation of stone structures and monumental masonry.

Job title examples

- Bricklayer/Blocklayer
- Stonemason

Other jobs in this field of work

What bricklayers and stonemasons do

- study plans and specifications to determine materials required, dimensions and installation procedures
- erect and dismantle restricted height scaffolding
- seal foundations with damp-resistant materials and spread layers of mortar to serve as base and binder for blocks using trowels
- lay bricks in rows, designs and shapes, and spread mortar between joints
- embed blocks in mortar and remove excess mortar
- check vertical and horizontal alignment
- cut, shape and polish stones and bricks using machines and hand tools, and shape bricks to fit irregular spaces
- repair and maintain bricks, cement blocks and related structures
- design and cut monumental masonry and lettering
- construct walls using stone slabs and large masonry slab blocks

Main employing industries

- Construction

Qualifications



The following government subsidised qualifications are available in NSW:

Certificate III in Bricklaying/Blocklaying available as an apprenticeship or qualification

Certificate III in Stonemasonry (Monumental/Installation) available as an apprenticeship or qualification

Apprenticeships and traineeships: Find out how to get an [apprenticeship or traineeship](#).

Course fees: You may be eligible for government subsidised training under Smart and Skilled. Go to the [Course Finder](#) to find training in your area, estimate your fee and find a training provider.

Job prospects and pay



- There are around 7,215 bricklayers and stonemasons working in NSW.
- Over the next four years, employment in this occupation is expected to decline in NSW.
- Employers report shortages of bricklayers in Sydney and regional NSW in a range of sectors including new housing and commercial construction. Suitably qualified stonemasons are in demand across NSW.

Average weekly full time earnings (before tax):

- Bricklayers and stonemasons: \$1,200
- All occupations: \$1,200

Related jobs



- Carpenter and Joiner
- Glazier
- Plasterer
- Plumber
- Roof Tiler
- Wall and Floor Tiler

To find out more regarding these related jobs, visit the [Job Guides Homepage](#).

Information sources

Occupations: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 1220.0

Employment: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, 6291.0.55.003

Skills shortages: Department of Employment, Skill Shortage List NSW 2015-16

Job prospects: Centre of Policy Studies (CoPS), Victoria University, Employment Forecast Data for NSW 2015/16 to 2022/23

Earnings: Department of Employment, joboutlook.gov.au, based on ABS Characteristics of Employment Survey, August 2014