

CAREERS IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

Wall & Floor Tiler

Wall and floor tilers lay ceramic, clay, slate, marble, glass and other types of tiles on external and internal walls and floors to provide protective and decorative finishes. Much of the work is undertaken on new buildings, including houses, shops, offices, factories, and swimming pools, but wall and floor tilers also renovate existing buildings. They may perform tasks including:

- ◆ preparing wall and floor surfaces by removing old tiles, grout, cement and adhesive;
- ◆ filling all holes and cracks, and then cleaning surfaces;
- ◆ setting tiles in position;
- ◆ using tile-cutting tools to cut and shape tiles for edges, corners, or around obstacles such as fittings and pipes;
- ◆ preparing grout, wiping it into joints between tiles, removing excess, cleaning and polishing tiles; and
- ◆ laying floors of cement, granolithic, terrazzo or similar composition.

Wall and floor tilers sometimes work in confined areas and in areas which require much bending and kneeling. They lift and carry cement and stacks of tiles. They sometimes work at heights and use ladders or scaffolding. Most tilers work in small teams and move frequently from one job location to another.

Personal Requirements

- ◆ able to work at heights
- ◆ able to work with your hands
- ◆ able to complete simple calculations
- ◆ able to work accurately and neatly

Education and Training

Entry to this occupation is by way of an apprenticeship or contract of training.

- ◆ Certificate II in Building and Construction – Fitout and Finish (Wall and Floor Tiling)
- ◆ Certificate III in Building and Construction – Fitout and Finish (Wall and Floor Tiling)
- ◆ Apprenticeship in Tile Laying (Wall and Floor Tiles)

