

## SECTOR: CONSTRUCTION

It's a huge sector worth more than  
**£100 BILLION**  
to the UK economy each year



It links closely with Engineering and Property  
It's also working hard to diversify its workforce e.g. by employing more young people and women  
Many people start their own business when they have gained skills and experience.

It's everything where we live that's built including;

\* **Bridges** \* **Factories** \* **Hospitals** \* **Houses** \*  
\* **Offices** \* **Roads** \* **Railways** \* **Schools** \*



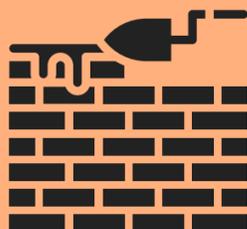
### Jobs and careers

The size and range of jobs available provide opportunities at all levels including school/college leavers and graduates:

\* **Architecture** \* **Building control** \* **Building services engineering** \*  
\* **Building surveying** \* **Civil engineering** \* **Land surveying** \* **quantity surveying** \*  
\* **Project Management** \* **Skilled trades including bricklaying** \*  
**Carpentry** \* **Demolition** \* **Electrical** \* **Plumbing** \* **Roofing** \* **Scaffolding** \*

The National Careers service provides an A-Z of more than one hundred job roles ranging from Architect and Bricklayer to Town Planner and Window Fitter here:

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-categories/construction-and-trades>



The icould.com website provides case studies of individuals working in roles in specific employers. They include information about how much the individuals are paid by those organisations and whether the roles are increasing or decreasing in demand. While roles and pay will vary between organisations these case studies provide a useful guide:

<https://icould.com/explore/categories/job-types/construction-and-architecture/>

Other jobs in the sector – Construction companies also need people for a range of roles that provide essential support to make them operate effectively. Examples are:

\* **Administration** \* **Customer Service** \* **Information Technology** \*  
\* **Marketing** \* **People Development** \* **Recruitment** \* **Sales** \*



## Qualifications & Skills

A very wide range of Apprenticeships are available at Intermediate, Advanced, and Higher levels in skilled trades, management and professional roles including:

**\* Bricklaying \* Building Services \* Carpenter \* Civil Engineer \***  
**\* Electrics \* Plumbing \* Project Management \* Roofing \* Surveying \***  
**\* Town Planning \***

The National Apprenticeship Service provides information here:

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices/browse-by-interests/construction>



Most Further Education colleges offer Technical levels and traditional vocational courses like BTEC National and Higher National Diplomas which also provide a route in. Before applying for such courses it's important to check the qualifications are recognised by employers and the relevant industry bodies so they meet the entry requirements for jobs. Here are two such bodies.

The Chartered Institute of Building:  
<https://www.ciob.org/about>

The Royal Institute of British Architects:  
<https://www.architecture.com>

Other skills and attributes employers value include:

**\* IT \* Numeracy \* Organisation \* Planning \***  
**\* Teamworking \* Time-management \***



## Employers

Large employers include:

Amey \* Arup \* Balfour Beatty \* BAM Construct UK \* Grosvenor Group \* Kier Group \* Laing O'Rourke \* Mott MacDonald \* Redrow \* Savills UK \* VINCI Construction UK \* Willmott Dixon.

Most have graduate and apprenticeship programmes. Some offer work-experience opportunities for students.

Public sector employers such as Councils and Local Authorities also have jobs and careers as they are responsible for the infrastructure in their area such as bridges, new housing, roads and town-planning.



Most Construction businesses are small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) located in one town or city.

The best way to find out about jobs they offer is to research the Careers, Job Vacancies or Work for Us areas of employers' websites.

*This summary provides a high-level introduction to the sector with references and links to other sources of information to enable young people to find out more. It is based on a wide range of sources which were up-to-date at the time it was created but are subject to change. The third-party web links and their content may also change beyond our control. Accessing these links is done so entirely at your own risk.*