

Apprenticeship Training Programme

Phase 1: *With Employer*

Induction Training
Introduction to Health & Safety Training
Introduction to Tools & Equipment
Introduction to Basic Skills

Phase 2: *Delivered in Training Centre (20 week)*

Course Content:
Brickwork
Blockwork (Solid & Hollow)
Cavity Walls & Chimney Breast Construction

Phase 3: *With Employer*

Work Based Assessments

Phase 4: *Delivered in Educational Colleges (10 weeks)*

Course Content:
Arch Construction (Axed)
Decorative Brickwork & Tiling
Stonework & Cladding

Phase 5: *With Employer*

Work Based Assessments

The overall duration of this apprenticeship is a minimum of 4 years provided all phases are successfully completed. On successful completion of the programme the learner is awarded a Level 6 Advanced Certificate Craft – Brick and Stonelaying.



For further information please contact:

Kerry ETB Training Centre,
Monavalley Tralee,

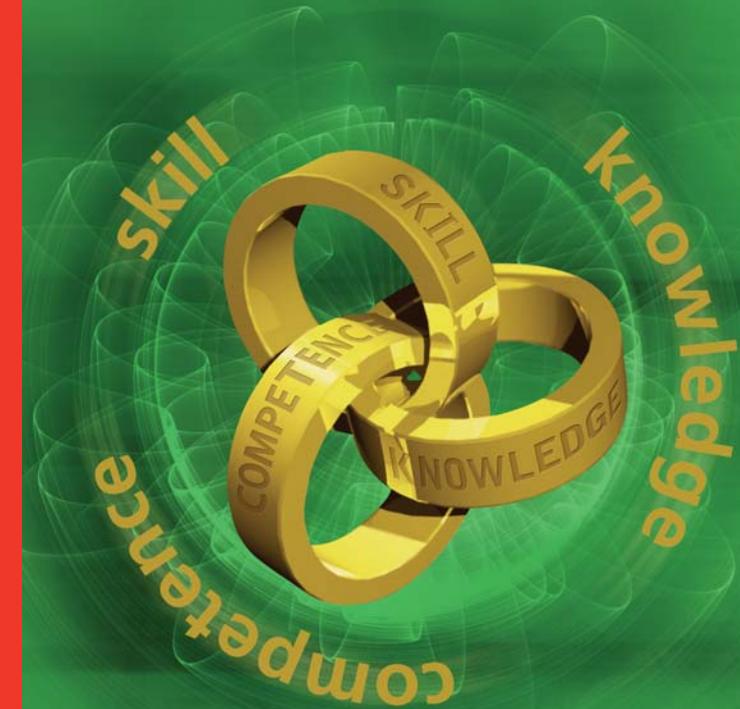
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or log onto www.SOLAS.ie

The Craft of Brick and Stonelaying



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 **Apprenticeship**

KNOWLEDGE. SKILL. COMPETENCE

Overview

Brick/stonelayers build the interior and exterior walls of buildings. The work of a brick/stonelayer is mainly concerned with the laying of bricks, stone, in the construction of solid and cavity walls, partitions, fireplaces, chimneys, and other structures. These craftspersons are generally employed in the building industry or they may be engaged on maintenance work in large industrial undertakings. Brick/stonelayers need to be able to read plans and drawings to find out how the structure is to be built and take account of where corners need to be or where openings must be left for doors and windows.

Work activities

Brick/stonelaying involves constructing all types of walling, from plain walls to more detailed work.

Brick/stonelaying is an essential part of many structures and a brick/stonelayer has to make sure that the structure is accurate and meets design requirements. Many sizes and colours of building material are used and considerable skill is needed to combine these into bonds to meet requirements. Bricklayers need to be able to read plans and drawings to find out how the structure is to be built and take account of where corners need to be or where openings must be left for doors and windows.

A brick/stonelayer may work on new buildings, extensions or the restoration of existing buildings. A variety of tools are used, for example, laying trowel for spreading mortar, pointing trowel, for pointing, spirit level for plumbing and levelling the wall, club hammers and brick hammers, a bolster and a variety of cold chisels for cutting and trimming brick stone and blocks, lines and line pines and corner blocks, for lining in walls etc.

Power tools may be also used from time-to-time. The work is mainly outdoors and conditions can be dirty and dusty as well as cold, damp and muddy, but also it can be sunny and hot.

Health and safety is an important aspect of the job, so a brick/stonelayer needs to wear protective footwear, a safety helmet and, occasionally, safety glasses and hand protection.

Aspects of Work

- Working outdoors in any weather
- Learning new practical skills
- Being physically active and on your feet
- Learning and developing new craft-related skills, knowledge and competence
- Learning about buildings etc. and how they are built
- Being accurate with numbers in estimating measuring and arithmetic
- Work requiring accuracy and attention to detail
- Lifting or carrying heavy items
- Travelling around from place to place
- Working on scaffolding and using ladders
- Practical skills and theoretical knowledge
- Understanding technical drawings and diagrams

Personal qualities and Skills

As a brick/stonelayer you need to be physically fit and strong as the work involves bending, stretching, lifting and working at heights. You need to be able to work both alone and in a team. You also need to be neat, accurate and have an eye for visual effect.

Opportunities

Opportunities arise from time-to-time for promotion to supervisor level. Many persons use an apprenticeship as a first step in proceeding to such occupations as instructors, teachers, training advisers, managers and owners of businesses.

Where apprentices and crafts persons have the necessary ability, initiative and basic qualifications, opportunities are available for advancement. These include advanced technological and management courses which are available in Institutes of Technology, schools of management, professional institutes, etc.

People anxious to advance themselves in their careers are advised to discover for themselves what opportunities are available.

Educational Requirements

The minimum age at which the employment of an apprentice may commence is 16 years of age.

The minimum educational requirements are:

1. Grade D in five subjects in the Department of Education & Science Junior Certificate Examination or an approved equivalent,
or
2. The successful completion of an approved Pre-Apprenticeship course
or
3. Three years' work experience gained over sixteen years of age in a relevant designated industrial activity as SOLAS shall deem acceptable

You must obtain a job as an apprentice in your chosen occupation. Your employer must be approved to train apprentices and must register you as an apprentice within 2 weeks of recruitment.

In certain crafts, apprenticeship applicants are required to pass a colour vision test approved by SOLAS.