

Apprenticeship Training Programme

Phase 1: With Employer

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

Phase 2: Delivered in Training Centre (20 weeks)

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

Phase 3: With Employer

Work Based Training and Assessments

Phase 4: Delivered in Educational Colleges (10 weeks)

Course Content:
Kerblaying & Paving
File Openings, Flues & Chimneys
Decorative Brickwork
Arch & Timber Frame Construction

Phase 5: With Employer

Work Based Training and Assessments

Phase 6: Delivered in Educational Colleges (10 weeks)

Course Content:
Arch Construction
Decorative Brickwork & Tiling
Stonework & Cladding

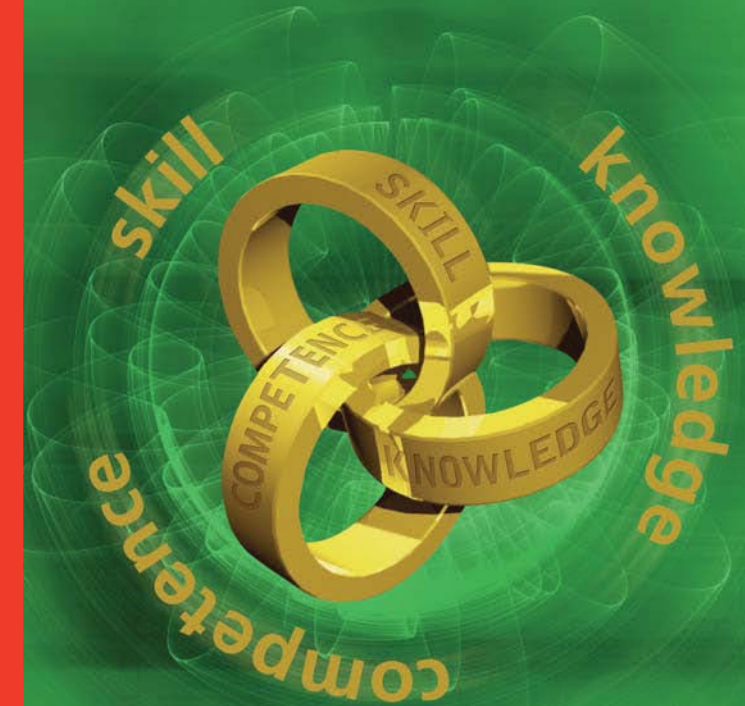
Phase 7: With Employer

Work Based Training and 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

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The Craft of Brick & Stonelaying



For further information please contact your local Education & Training Board Training Centre or log onto www.SOLAS.ie



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 **Apprenticeship**
KNOWLEDGE | SKILLS | COMPETENCE

What is a Brick and Stonelayer?

Brick and Stonelaying is an essential part of many structures – the work is mainly concerned with the laying of bricks and/or stone, in the construction of all types of walling, interior and exterior, from plain walls to more detailed work. The work can be solid and cavity walls, partitions, fireplaces, chimneys, and other structures and as many sizes and colours of building material are used and considerable skill is needed to combine these into bonds to meet requirements.

Brick and Stonelayers are generally employed in the building industry or they may be engaged on maintenance work in large industrial undertakings. They may work on new buildings, extensions or the restoration of existing buildings.

Brick and Stonelayers require many skills including:

- Working with a variety of specialised hand and power tools
- Working with mortar to bond and point
- The ability to work to specifications and adapt to surroundings to produce plumb and level walls
- The ability 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
- Attention to detail and accuracy – the Brick and Stonelayer has to make sure that the structure is accurate and meets design requirements

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

Personal Qualities and Skills

As a Brick and Stonelayer you will need to be physically active and to be able to work with your hands. An awareness of health and safety and good housekeeping is essential as well as attention to detail.

Aspects of work

- Learning and developing new practical craft-related skills, knowledge and competence
- Working with and learning from experienced Craftspersons
- Working with technical drawings and diagrams
- Seeing a job through from start to finish.
- Comply with Health and Safety requirements
- Working mainly outdoors
- Using tools or machinery
- Being accurate with numbers in estimating measuring and arithmetic
- Accuracy and attention to detail
- Being well organised and careful with practical tasks
- Working at heights
- Lifting or carrying heavy items
- Taking responsibility for own learning, including the allocation of study time
- Working on construction site
- Being physically active
- Stretching, bending and kneeling
- Working in cramped and awkward spaces
- Passing all your phase exams (theory, practicals skills demonstration)
- Earning as you learn

The Brick and Stonelayer must have the ability to:

- Plan and organise
- Communicate effectively
- Solve problems
- Work independently and as part of a team
- Show a positive attitude
- Recognise the need for good customer relations
- Demonstrate good work practices including time keeping, tidiness, responsibility, quality awareness and safety awareness

How to become an Apprentice

- You must obtain employment as an apprentice in your chosen occupation.
- The employer must be approved to train apprentices.
- The employer must register you as an apprentice within two weeks of recruitment.
- In certain crafts, apprenticeship applicants are required to pass a colour vision test approved by SOLAS.

Entry 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 & Skills 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

It should be noted that these are the current approved **minimum educational requirements** for apprenticeship programmes, however, previous experience of the following subjects would be an advantage but not essential: Art, Technical Drawing/Graphics, Technology, Construction Studies and Mathematics.

Opportunities on Qualification

On successful completion of the apprenticeship programme, apprentices are qualified to work within the recognised trade or profession.

Where craftspersons have the necessary ability and initiative, opportunities are available for advancement. These include advanced technology courses and management courses which are available in Institutes of Technology, Schools of Management and Professional Institutes.

Many craftspersons use their qualification as a platform to launch careers such as managers, owners of businesses and instructors amongst others.