

Overview of the role

Laying bricks, blocks and other types of building components in mortar to construct and repair walls.

Standard in development

L2: Bricklayer

Title of occupation

Bricklayer

UOS reference number

ST0095

Core and options

No

Option title/s

Level of occupation

Level 2

Route

Construction and the built environment

Typical duration of apprenticeship

24 months

Target date for approval

01/10/2022

Resubmission

No

Would your proposed apprenticeship standard replace an existing framework?

No

Does professional recognition exist for the occupation?

No

Occupation summary

This occupation is found in both the new build and refurbishment sectors of the construction industry. Projects vary in size, scale, and duration, ranging from the repair of a garden wall to new build housing and large-scale commercial projects such as office blocks, hospitals and retail developments. Employers and contractors of bricklayers vary in size from small, local family building companies to major home builders and commercial contractors. Bricklayers sometimes choose to specialise in certain types of projects and go on to become masters in their field. Examples include work on heritage and listed buildings, new build homes or commercial works. There is growing demand for Bricklayers to help meet the need for new homes.

The broad purpose of the occupation is to lay bricks and blocks, sometimes utilising modern methods of construction such as brick slip systems or other premanufactured elements to construct walls. Bricklayers carry out simple setting out, prepare mortar and use a trowel to lay bricks, mortar and apply damp-proof materials to complete the project to specification and required design. Bricklayers use spirit levels, laser levels and plumb lines to check building alignment and use hammers, chisels, power tools and brick cutting machines to shape and trim bricks and blocks. Bricklayers typically work outdoors on construction sites, in most weathers and at height.

In their daily work, an employee in this occupation interacts with their immediate team and the site management team, which could include a senior or craft bricklayer providing advice and guidance. They would also often liaise with other construction trades such as site carpenters and roofers who could work for their own organisation or another contractor. Site managers again could work for their own company or the main contractor. In the case of smaller projects such as house extensions, liaison with the client, neighbours and officials such as building control surveyors would be expected.

An employee in this occupation will be responsible for creating a high-quality product which meets standards, specifications and design plans. They are expected to do this with due regard to all safety aspects involved with working on a construction site, ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of themselves and others at all times. With sustainable construction at the forefront of all projects, it is expected they would give consideration to the environment and sustainability of materials, waste awareness and recycling.

Typical job titles

Bricklayer

Are there any statutory/regulatory or other typical entry requirements?

No

Occupation duties

DUTY	KSBS
Duty 1 work in compliance with occupational health, safety and environmental requirements to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of self and others at all times. Report in a timely manner any non-compliances against the construction programme to the appropriate person.	K1 K2 K3 K4 K5 K6 K7 K13 K30 K31 S1 S2 S6 S17 S19 S21 B1 B3 B4 B6
Duty 2 carry out their work conforming to all current and relevant building regulations, quality standards and work instructions.	K1 K2 K3 K5 K6 K7 K8 K9 K10 K15 K17 K18 K19 K20 K21 K22 K23 K30 S1 S2 S3 S4 S9 S10 S11 S12 S13 S14 S22 B1 B2 B3 B4 B6
Duty 3 work to the construction programme, adapting to changes in schedule and requirements where necessary.	K2 K3 K4 K5 K6 K9 K10 K30 S4 S22 B1 B2 B3 B6

DUTY**KSBS****Duty**

4 prepare the work site including setting out the work and the selection of materials and tools appropriate to the project.

K2 K3 K4 K6 K8 K10 K11 K12 K13 K14 K15 K16 K17 K18 K19 K20 K21 K22 K23
S4 S5 S6 S7 S8 S9 S10 S11 S12 S13 S14 S22
B1 B2 B3 B6

Duty 5 use the appropriate tools and equipment to construct walls with brick and block to industry standards

K1 K2 K3 K4 K5 K6 K7 K8 K9 K10 K11 K12 K13 K14 K15 K16 K17 K18 K19 K20 K21
S3 S4 S5 S7 S8 S9 S10 S11 S12 S13 S15 S22
B1 B2 B3 B6

Duty 6 carry out minor repairs or modifications to masonry

K1 K2 K3 K4 K6 K8 K9 K10 K11 K12 K13 K14 K15 K16 K17 K18 K22 K23 K24
S4 S5 S7 S8 S10 S11 S12 S13 S15 S16 S22
B1 B2 B3 B6

Duty

7 collaborate with stakeholders including clients and other construction trades

K3 K4 K6 K10 K24 K26 K27 K28
S4 S18 S20
B1 B2 B3 B6

Duty

8 maintain a clear and safe worksite at all times, disposing of waste appropriately and sustainably

K2 K3 K4 K6
S2 S3 S6 S17
B1 B2 B3 B4 B6

DUTY	KSBS
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Duty 9 carry out continuous professional development to maintain knowledge of current and future developments affecting the role	K2 K3 K4 K6 K7 K8 K9 K10 S19 B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6
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Duty 10 receive, unload, move and lift materials to site for installation following good handling practices preventing injury or damage.	K1 K2 K3 K4 K6 K8 K9 K11 K30 S7 S8 B1 B2 B3 B6
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KSBS

Knowledge

K1: Awareness of health and safety regulations, standards, and guidance and impact on role. Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (CoSHH). Fire safety. Health and Safety at Work Act. Asbestos awareness. Manual handling. signage, fire extinguishers. Safety signage. Situational awareness. Slips, trips, and falls. Working in confined spaces. Working at height. Electrical safety respiratory protective equipment (RPE), dust suppression.

K2: Safety Control equipment and how to use personal protective equipment (PPE),

K3: Safe systems of work: Site inductions, tool box talks, risk assessments, method statements and hazard identification in the work area

K4: Impact of the sector on the environment: Efficient use of resources. Recycling, reuse, surface water contamination and safe disposal of waste.

K5: The importance and considerations of the environment and sustainability: Thermal qualities, airtightness and ventilation in buildings

K6: Principles of building: and components foundations, roofs, walls, cavity step trays, floors, utilities and services, insulation, fire, moisture and air protection, damp proof courses, the use of brick ties and quality of materials

K7: Standards and regulations associated with bricklaying activities: British standards, building regulations and warranty provider standards

K8: Materials and their characteristics: bricks and blocks, efflorescence, mortar, damp proof courses (DPCs), wall ties, plasticisers, and concrete and steel lintels, RSJs, fire stopping and insulation, cement and building sand

K9: Modern methods of construction: rapid build technology, pre cast components, corner profiles, alternative frame and cladding systems, masonry support systems

K10: Methods of interpreting and extracting relevant information from drawings and specifications

K11: the basic principles of digital design and modelling systems

K12: Simple resource estimation techniques: quantity of bricks and blocks, amount of mortar, quantity of wall ties, DPCs, cavity trays and lintels

K13: Hand tool use, maintenance and storage: levels, measures, hammers, bolsters, brick hammers, trowels, brick jointer, line blocks and pins, scutch, chariot and brick clamps

K14: Power tool use and limitations: disc cutters, mixers and drills

K15: Bond types: English bond, Flemish bond, garden wall bond and broken bond

K16: Solid wall construction and setting out: capping methods

K17: Joint Finishes: Half round, flush, weather struck and recessed

K18: Principles of basic decorative walling and piers: projecting and contrasting brick, isolated and attached pier, banding

K19: Principles of the use of expansion joints

K20: Mixing Mortar: ratios, silos, pre-mixed, gauging, hand mixing and mechanical mixing

K21: Cavity wall setting out techniques: bricks and blocks, openings and levels, use of profiles, gauge rods and squares

K22: Cavity wall construction using stretcher bond brick and block walling, forming openings, closing cavities. selection and placement of wall ties, insulation, damp proof courses (DPCs), cavity trays, weep holes, ventilation (air bricks), lintels and fire stopping

K23: brick on edge and soldier courses: construction and setting out

K24: defects and repair: construction defects and methods

K25: Methods of protecting materials and work: frost, water construction damage

K26: Verbal communication techniques and Construction terminology

K27: Principles of good team working

K28: Inclusion, equity and diversity in the workplace

K29: Methods of cutting bricks and blocks using hand tools

K30: Gable end wall: setting up, construction and techniques

K31: Well-being: mental and physical health considerations in self and others and how to access support

Skills

S1: Comply with health and safety regulations, standards, and guidance

S2: identify and use personal protective equipment (PPE)

S3: Comply with environmental and sustainability regulations, standards, and guidance. Segregate resources for reuse, recycling and disposal

S4: Comply with industry regulations, standards, and guidance.

S5: Read and interpret information from drawings and specifications

S6: Estimate and select required resources: For example the quantity of bricks and blocks, mortar, wall ties and insulation

S7: Prepare and maintain a safe working area

S8: Select and use hand tools

- S9:** Maintain and store hand tools.
- S10:** Set out brick and block cavity wall to given tolerances, including an opening
- S11:** Construct a stretcher bond brick and block cavity wall with return and opening to given tolerances, including installing a lintel with soldiers, brick and edge cill , closure around opening, insulation, fire stopping, cavity tray, damp proof course (DPC), ventilation (air bricks) and weep holes.
- S12:** Apply joint finishes, for example Half round, flush, weather struck and recessed
- S13:** Set out and construct simple brick solid wall with capping
- S14:** Gauge and hand mix mortar to ratio.
- S15:** Measure and cut bricks and blocks using hand tools , to given tolerances
- S16:** Carry out a simple repair: For example, replacing damaged bricks,
- S17:** Protect materials and finished work
- S18:** Verbally communicate with others, applying construction terminology
- S19:** Follow equity, diversity and inclusion guidance .
- S20:** Applies team working principles to their own and the wider build team
- S21:** Identifies well-being support available to self and others
- S22:** Construct a stretcher bond gable end wall with raking cut

Behaviours

- B1:** Put health, safety and wellbeing first
- B2:** Consider the environment when using resources and carrying out processes
- B3:** Take ownership of given work
- B4:** Contribute to an inclusive and diverse culture
- B5:** Seek learning and development opportunities
- B6:** Team-focus to meet team goals including, considering the wider build team

Qualifications

English and Maths

English and maths qualifications form a mandatory part of all apprenticeships and must be completed before an apprentice can pass through gateway. The requirements are detailed in the current version of the [apprenticeship funding rules](#).

Does the apprenticeship need to include any mandated qualifications in addition to the above-mentioned English and maths qualifications?

No

Consultation

Progression Routes

A bricklayer could progress to become a Craft Bricklayer which will provide them with the leadership and supervision experience as well as the experience of specialist projects. This could then lead on to them moving further into site supervision roles or specialising in their craft eg heritage buildings.

Supporting uploads

Mandatory qualification uploads

Professional body confirmation uploads

Notice period

Involved employers

Bordercraft Group, Barratt Homes, Lovell Homes, Federation of Master Builders, Association of Brickwork Contractors, Fairgrove Homes, McCarthy & Stone, Galliard Homes, Redrow Homes, Taylor Wimpey, William Davis, A&B Joinery, Lyons Annoot