



# Careers in Carpentry & Joinery

*Your guide to training, jobs and opportunities in carpentry & joinery*

Liverpool & Merseyside | Level 1 to Level 3 | Apprenticeships available



## Why Choose a Career in Carpentry & Joinery?

- Skilled craft — design and build structures that last decades
- High demand trade — carpentry and joinery are essential in every building project
- Strong earning potential — starting at £20,000+, self-employed can earn £40,000–£60,000+
- Creative work — building bespoke furniture, doors, stairs and architectural features
- Varied work environment — residential, commercial, heritage and shop fitting projects
- Entry routes for all — Level 1 courses need no prior qualifications



## Skills and Personal Qualities

- Practical skill — using hand and power tools accurately and safely
- Precision and accuracy — measurements, cuts and joints must be exact
- Problem-solving — adapting designs to different materials and spaces
- Physical fitness — lifting materials, working at height, standing for long periods
- Attention to detail — creating professional finishes and quality workmanship
- Safety awareness and teamwork — following regulations and working with other trades



## Useful School Subjects

- Maths — measuring, calculating angles, understanding geometry and scale
- Design & Technology — understanding materials, technical drawings and building principles
- Science — understanding material properties, wood, finishes and sustainable materials
- Art & Design — visual design, aesthetics, creating bespoke pieces



## Local Courses (Levels 1 to 3)

Courses are available at local colleges across Merseyside. Many courses accept students without GCSEs.

### Carpentry & Joinery Courses (Levels 1 to 3)

- City of Liverpool College — Carpentry & Joinery L1 Certificate | Site Construction L2 Diploma | L2 & L3 Apprenticeships
- Hugh Baird College — Carpentry & Joinery L1 | L2 Site & L2 Architectural/Bench | L3 Site & Bench | L2 & L3 Apprenticeships
- St Helens College — Carpentry & Joinery L1, L2, L3
- Knowsley Community College — Carpentry & Joinery L1, L2

- Riverside College, Widnes — Carpentry & Joinery L1 Diploma | L2 Diploma | L3 Advanced Diploma

### SEND-Friendly & Supported Provision

- Supported study options may be available — speak to your careers adviser about what could work for you

### Apprenticeships and Training

- Carpentry & Joinery Apprenticeship — Level 2 (18 months+)
- Carpentry & Joinery Professional Apprenticeship — Level 3
- Specialisms: Site Carpentry | Architectural/Bench Joinery | Shop Fitting
- Many local construction companies offer paid apprenticeships with on-site training
- Search live vacancies: [www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](http://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)
- Supported Internships (for students with an EHCP) are run by local colleges with their selected employer partners — ask your careers adviser whether this route could suit you

### Jobs, Volunteering and Work Experience

Carpentry and joinery offer both site-based and workshop-based careers.

Role	Where You Work	Starting Qualification
Trainee Carpenter / Joiner	Construction and joinery companies	Level 1-2 or apprenticeship
Qualified Carpenter / Joiner	Construction and joinery companies	Level 2 NVQ Carpentry & Joinery
Specialist / Supervisor	Heritage, architectural, shop fitting	Level 3 + experience
Self-Employed Carpenter / Joiner	Own client base	Level 2-3 + experience

**Trainees start around £18,000–£22,000. Qualified carpenters and joiners earn £25,000–£35,000, specialists and supervisors £30,000–£45,000, and self-employed £35,000–£55,000+.**

### Work Experience & Volunteering

- Visit college open days to see the workshops and tools
- Contact local construction companies and joinery firms about apprenticeships
- Practical projects at home all count as useful experience

### Next Steps and Contact Information

- Visit college open days and websites
- Search for local jobs: [www.indeed.co.uk](http://www.indeed.co.uk) | [www.notjustjobs.com](http://www.notjustjobs.com)
- Find apprenticeships: [www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](http://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)

<b>TAGS Careers</b>	<a href="http://www.tags.careers">www.tags.careers</a> — local careers information and resources
<b>Colleges</b>	City of Liverpool: <a href="http://www.liv-coll.ac.uk">www.liv-coll.ac.uk</a>   Hugh Baird: <a href="http://www.hughbaird.ac.uk">www.hughbaird.ac.uk</a>   St Helens: <a href="http://www.sthelens.ac.uk">www.sthelens.ac.uk</a>   Knowsley: <a href="http://www.knowsleycollege.ac.uk">www.knowsleycollege.ac.uk</a>   Riverside: <a href="http://www.riversidecollege.ac.uk">www.riversidecollege.ac.uk</a>
<b>More Support</b>	Your careers adviser can provide additional guidance tailored to your needs
<b>Apprenticeships</b>	<a href="http://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk">www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk</a>   <a href="http://www.indeed.co.uk">www.indeed.co.uk</a>   <a href="http://www.notjustjobs.com">www.notjustjobs.com</a>