

BUILD OHIO

YOUR FUTURE IN CONSTRUCTION STARTS HERE

Plumber

Plumbers are skilled craftsmen who install, repair, and alter pipe systems that carry gases, water and other liquids required for sanitation, storm water, industrial production, and other uses. They install plumbing fixtures, appliances, bathtubs, basins, sinks, showers, and grease line systems. They work from blueprints and working drawings to determine materials required for installation. They cut and thread pipe using pipe cutters, cutting torches, and pipe threading machines

Working Conditions

Plumbers may have to work indoors or outdoors on a ladder or scaffold, underground in a trench, a crawl space under a building, or in the unfinished basement of a new building. Some of the work is dirty and messy in dusty or muddy conditions. The work is active and strenuous, with standing, bending, crawling, lifting, pulling, and pushing, and is often done in strict accordance with the state plumbing and mechanical code regulations

Aptitude and Interest

A plumber works to solve a variety of problems. As in most service occupations, plumbers need to get along well with all kinds of people, and they can get called out during evenings, weekends, or holidays to perform their job.

Training

To become a skilled plumber training is essential. It can be acquired informally through "learning-by-working;" through company on-the-job training programs; by attending trade or vocational/ technical schools; through unilaterally (management or labor) sponsored trainee programs; through registered labor-management apprenticeship programs, or a combination of the above. It is generally accepted that the more formalized training programs give more comprehensive skill training. Recommended high school courses include English, math, drafting, blueprint reading, physics, and chemistry.

Wage Averages for Ohio (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2013)

Hourly: \$23.55

Annual: \$50,980





Erin the Plumber

TRADEPROFILE

REAL PEOPLE WITH REAL STORIES

YEARS WORKING IN THE INDUSTRY?

I worked as a plumber for 10 years before hearing about the JATC (Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee) plumbing apprenticeship. I am now in my second year of the JATC Plumbing Apprenticeship program.

HOW DID YOU BEGIN YOUR CAREER?

I began my career by applying to the JATC plumbers apprenticeship. Before I was accepted, I had to complete an entrance exam and interview, and then I was accepted. After attending orientation, I was paired with a Plumbing contractor

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY?

The opportunity to learn a skill that could lead me to a prosperous career .

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I never get bored and I am always learning something new.

BEST ADVICE

Do your research about the work environment of a plumber. If you like working with your hands, and learning practical skills that grow your knowledge, then becoming a plumber is something you should do!

BEST EXPERIENCE

Seeing the project come together and knowing my work is done to the proper standard that protects the health and welfare of the occupants.