

# Just the Job

## Information Sheet

### Job title/s

Joiner  
Kitchen manufacturer  
Doors and window maker and stair maker  
Shop fitter  
Wood joiner  
Joinery machinist

### Job description

Joiners' measure, cut, prepare and assemble timber and timber board products to make kitchens, cabinets, doors, window frames and stairs. Joiners use machines to cut timber – high tech machines as well as computer controlled machines.

### Qualifications required

Most joinery qualifications are three years. People thinking of entering into this trade will need to be good with their hands, be able to calculate and read at NCEA level 1, have basic computer skills and it would be an advantage to have studied technology at college.

Other attributes include:

- \* Enjoy working with your hands and be a perfectionist!
- \* Good communication skills
- \* Problem solving skills
- \* Skill caring for joinery equipment
- \* Technical drawing
- \* Basic maths
- \* A concerned for safety and first aid
- \* Accuracy and an eye for detail

### Training costs

Approx \$2000 spread over three years

### Location of job

Most of the work is carried out in specialised factories. Some joiners also install their products in homes – such as kitchens, doors, windows, stairs, and in commercial places such as restaurants, bars, shops, offices.

### Career path

Joiners can move into boats and luxury yacht fit outs or into furniture making.

Qualified trades people can move into management, CNC programming, kitchen design, project management or establish their own company

### **Salary range**

Apprentices may start on the minimum wage but most employers pay for the training expenses therefore the apprentices will not have any loans when they become qualified.

Wages vary and can range from \$13 to \$20 per hour, depending on location and the skill of the joiner.

A top self-employed tradesperson can currently earn \$200,000 or more.

### **Other careers this profession could lead to**

Boat joinery  
Luxury yacht fit outs  
Furniture making

### **How to increase your chances of successfully entering this industry**

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- Some work experience from holiday or after school jobs
- Through the Modern Apprenticeship programme
- A pre-trade course at a polytechnic
- Computer skills as more CNC machines are now used in the industry

### **Other places to source information about this job**

Joinery Industry Training Organisation: [www.jito.org.nz](http://www.jito.org.nz)  
Career Services – Rapuara [www.kiwicareers.govt.nz](http://www.kiwicareers.govt.nz)

### **Other relevant points**

\* Joiners mostly work in small joinery workshops but also in large, more 'production line' factories.

\* Joiners work independently and in teams. They often work under the direction of a supervisor or factory owner. They may supervise assistants and they also interact with suppliers, architects, designers, other workers and clients.

\* There is a very high level of job satisfaction, being able to make very attractive items out of timber and manufactured boards, such as kitchens, new windows and doors for home renovations, restaurant counters and shop fit outs.