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Trades



#CHOOSECOLLEGE

Trades

Over 2 million people work in the Construction Industry in the UK with many working in manual crafts or trades.

These roles suit people who are very practical and want to work as part of a team, often working outdoors.

As with all of the construction industry, work can vary in type and size from small jobs such as building a garden wall, hanging a door or decorating a ceiling, to being part of the team constructing a large complex building, such as a school or shopping centre.

There's always a new project starting somewhere which needs qualified tradespeople to work on it!

► Start your career here

Search and apply for courses at www.ayrshire.ac.uk or call **Student Services** on **0300 303 0303**

Possible Careers

Bench Joiner

Site Carpenter

Bricklayer

Painter and Decorator

Dry Liner

Trades Supervisor

Assistant Site Manager

Trainee Surveyor

Project Manager

Estates Manager

Bonus Surveyor

Clerk of Works

Architectural Technician

Estimator

Health and Safety Manager

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Reeve McNally

Start here

City & Guilds Certificate in
Construction Skills (Bricklaying)

Go anywhere

Self-employed bricklayer

“When I was at school I went on work experience at a building site. I was then offered an apprenticeship that I grabbed with both hands.

Now I’m self-employed, working on anything from garden walls and hard landscaping to house extensions.

At College I learned a lot about reading from drawings and how to set out certain walls. I got more practice in building decorative models, including different types of arches that are rarely built on site.

“You get a lot of job satisfaction from this trade. You turn up to a job, it’s a blank canvas, and it’s up to you to make it look great.”

You get a lot of job satisfaction from this trade. You turn up to a job, it’s a blank canvas, and it’s up to you to make it look great.

When the weather’s good, you can’t beat this job.”

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Kelly Kerr

Start here

City & Guilds Certificate in
Construction Skills (Painting
and Decorating)

Go anywhere

Painting and Decorating
Apprenticeship

"One day I was helping my friend paint her house and that's what got me thinking 'I want a career in this'.

I've loved every moment of it. The greatest feeling you get is when you look back on your work at the end of a job.

My apprenticeship will take four years, but I think of it more as a job for life. Maybe at some stage further down the line I'd like to move into interior design.

Painting and decorating is still seen as a 'man's trade', but I love it. There are two other girls in my course so it's good to see more girls coming through. I don't see why you should be put off. Just go for it, if you like it then it doesn't matter what anyone else thinks."

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Jack McBride

Start here

SVQ Level 3 in Carpentry
and Joinery

Go anywhere

Self-employed Joiner and Builder

My career path started way back when I was around 9 or 10 years old. Every Christmas I was given a large-scale LEGO model and I wasn't happy until it was completely finished!

I was first interested in joinery when I watched my friend's dad build something out of nothing and I knew that suited me to a tee.

During my apprenticeship I won an apprentice of the year award and competed in the national SkillBuild competition; winning the Scottish heats twice and earning the opportunity to compete in the national heats in Birmingham.

I am now a self-employed Joiner and Builder, with one employee and with my business constantly growing. The College was one of the main reasons of where I am today.



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The foundations of your future

From school pupils to advanced apprentices, we offer courses to suit every level.

All courses are delivered in well-appointed workshops with industry standard equipment.

Subjects include:

Bench Joinery

Bricklaying

Site Carpentry

Painting and Decorating



Why choose Trades?

- You can take part in work experience while studying at College.
- Our students regularly use their skills to work on projects which benefit the Ayrshire community.
- There's a great variety of projects to work on during your time at College. From new builds to historic properties, there are plenty of opportunities out there.

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“A construction trade will provide you with the skills and tools to build a meaningful career. The sky is the limit with a trade qualification, you can advance into management positions or even start up a company. We have a board of directors that has three from a trade background and two from a professional background, proof that there is no restriction for talented and ambitious people.”

David Smith
Managing Director,
Ashleigh (Scotland) Limited



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Are you right for the job?

- You have the desire to be employed in a global, ever-changing industry and want to be part of the construction of buildings of the future.
- You enjoy practical work, are happy to travel to sites and work as part of a team.

What are employers looking for?

- Good timekeeping and attendance.
- Willingness to learn and undertake relevant qualifications for the role.
- Flexibility to work on a variety of projects in different locations.

Are you interested in working in Trades?

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Start Here

If you'd like to learn a trade, then our courses are a great place to start.

If you're unsure which trade is right for you, then get in touch to discuss your options.

Some of our courses require no formal qualifications, while others require three National 4s or relevant Standard Grades at general level. However we may consider you for a place if you don't have any formal qualifications, but have life experience and are really keen.

You can progress to a more advanced level of study during your course.

Go Anywhere

There's a clear progression route from SCQF Level 4 courses to Advanced Craft (PDA) in each trade for students who have completed their apprenticeship.

In addition, you could look to learn new skills to become a Construction Manager or go into a technician role through further study at HNC level leading to a degree programme.



Please check with each University for their articulation requirements prior to your UCAS application. Entry is subject to availability of places and meeting entry requirements, other options may also be available.

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