

Pearson BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Construction Occupations

Qualification Number: 600/3254/6

What is the purpose of this qualification?

This qualification is a **Technical Certificate**, which is a type of qualification designed to prepare learners for employment, covering both theory and the application of specific skills and techniques. Learners who take this qualification will know what job they want to do, but may need some initial practical training and theoretical understanding before starting work. It can be taken outside of a work environment, for example in full or part-time education, in a college or through a private training provider, with access to workshop facilities to teach the necessary practical skills in a safe environment. It may also be undertaken whilst in work, for example during a period of initial training or apprenticeship.

The BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Construction Occupations covers the underpinning knowledge and job-specific techniques and skills in Construction in a number of different occupations at Operative level which are listed below.

Construction Operatives carry out a range of jobs which are essential in the building of homes, public facilities and infrastructure, or in maintaining and repairing them, which require specialist skills and knowledge. The UK needs such skilled Operatives to meet Government targets in homebuilding and creating and renewing infrastructure for the 21st Century. Operatives must be able to work independently, carrying out their tasks to given specifications for companies, contractors or for the government directly. This qualification can prepare learners to enter the following jobs:

Site Carpenter; has responsibility for installing, fixing or making timber products for building works, on site

Bench Joiner; manufacturing and assembling timber components off-site, for later use in building

Bricklayer; setting out and building masonry structures to specification on site (blockwork and brickwork using trowels)

Plasterer & Dry-lining Operative; applying wet plaster or installing dry products (plasterboard) to finish surfaces in building interiors to specification

Roofer/ Roof Tiler: Working safely at height to install roofs in the following disciplines:

- **General roofer;** installing roof cladding, waterproofing roofs and tiling roofs
- **Built-up felt roofer;** preparing and installing roof coverings in felt or single-layer proprietary coverings for flat roofs.
- **Slater and tiler roofer;** installing roof tiles and slates and waterproofing openings in roofs made of these materials

Maintenance Operative; a multi-skilled Operative with responsibility for at least two of the following: masonry repair, carpentry and joinery, plastering/interior tiling and roofing, painting and decorating

Construction Operations Operative; has responsibility for carrying out works on site at the early stage of a building project, for example laying drainage, excavating and reinstating groundworks, placing and finishing concrete. This may be in a civil engineering context (i.e. building public infrastructure) or for domestic/commercial projects such as house building

Painter/ Decorator; preparing interior surfaces for finishing and painting or applying paper wall coverings to a consistent high standard and given specification

Scaffolder; working safely at height to erect, dismantle and transport scaffolding and hoist towers on site

Formworker; has responsibility for making, repairing and installing timber formwork (moulds and/or support structures into which concrete can be poured when building) to exact specifications

Highways Maintenance Operative; has responsibility for excavating and re-instating highway surfaces, locating and protecting mains utility services such as gas, water and electricity.

What does this qualification cover?

This qualification has a duration of between 330 and 450 guided learning hours, depending on the pathway chosen.

It has 13 pathways covering each of the above disciplines, which the learner must choose when starting the course.

All learners will learn about the structure of the construction industry, health, safety and welfare in construction and Sustainability in the construction industry. Most pathways* contain a range of optional units which may be taken according to the specialist work they intend to go into or particular areas of interest. All learners have the opportunity to undertake the unit 'Construction Process and Operations for Low Rise Domestic Buildings', which covers the theory behind stages of a construction project, traditional and modern processes and operations for low-rise domestic building, and the properties and uses of construction materials.

Additional optional units cover relevant theory for example 'Construction Methods and Techniques for Low-Rise Domestic Buildings' and practical application of theory in 'Construction Drawing Techniques' and 'Use of Science and Maths in Construction' units.

The qualification is mapped to national occupational standards in the following disciplines: Wood Occupations, Accessing and Rigging, Construction Operations, Decorative Finishing Industrial Painting, Formwork, Highways Maintenance, Building Maintenance, Plastering, Roofing, Trowel Occupations.

**With the exception of specialist roofing pathways, highways maintenance and scaffolding pathways. For the full structure, contact 0844 576 0045 or wblcustomerservices@pearson.com*

Who can take this qualification?

This qualification is for all learners aged 16 and above who are capable of reaching the required standards and have opportunity to learn and demonstrate the practical skills covered in this qualification. Learners do not need any prior qualifications, knowledge or experience before starting the qualification.

As pre-employment training, the qualification is ideal for full or part time learners with access to a safe environment (i.e. a classroom or workshop), to learn construction techniques prior to starting work.

Although this qualification is a component of the Intermediate Apprenticeships in 'Construction Building', 'Construction Civil Engineering' and 'Construction Specialist', it is particularly suitable for

learners who may need or wish to take the qualification on its own as pre-employment training as detailed above. Alternatively, learners may be working full-time, part-time or on a voluntary basis. Learners may not necessarily be new to the role but may need to upskill and/or demonstrate competency in the areas covered by the qualification.

What can this qualification lead to?

Learners may use the qualification to gain employment in the above occupations, or may use it to further their career development as part of an apprenticeship or other training programme, as they gain the skills and knowledge required to carry out the above construction roles.

If learners are taking this as part of a larger study programme and have not yet achieved an English or Maths qualification at level 2, it is recommended to take this qualification together with a GCSE in English and Maths, as this would be particularly valued by employers.

If learners are interested in progression to technician level or advanced operative level, they may use the skills and knowledge gained in this qualification to progress to level 3 qualifications such as the BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Construction Occupations or the BTEC Level 3 Certificate, Diploma or Extended Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment.

Who supports this qualification?

This qualification is supported by the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) and the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB), as being an appropriate qualification to prepare learners for employment into the above named job roles.

How is this qualification assessed?

A variety of assessment methods may be used including centre-devised knowledge assignments, practical assignments, logbooks, workbooks, written tests or other evidence to show learners have met the assessment criteria of the qualification. Assessment decisions are assessed internally by the training centre and externally verified by competent Pearson personnel.