



# Tiler

## Description

Tilers lay ceramic, stone or concrete tiles on hard surfaces. They cover walls, floors, stairs with tiles, often in residential and other buildings, in the kitchen, bathroom or hallway. Whether working in new build or renovation, the tiler must know technology of his work, types and properties of materials he uses in his work. He performs a number of tasks: first, he inspects the surface, if it is uneven, it needs to be levelled off and prepared; then he prepares and cuts/trims tiles; prepares and mixes the adhesive; lays tiles evenly and under a specific angle and seals them; fills the gap between the tiles with grout. He uses a number of tools and machines in his work: grinder, driller, trowel, hammer, plumb bob, level, tape measure, panel cutter or bench grinder. Tiler also reads technical drawings, performs precise measurements and calculations and observes safety at work measures. In addition to having a practical function, the tiler's work has an aesthetic value, as laid tiles should be decorative, apart from being resistant and durable. For that reason, the tiler chooses the right colour and shape of tiles in accordance with the customer's requirements or set plan.

The tiler requires precision, dexterity and „a steady hand“. He works both indoors and outdoors, in a kneeling, squatting or standing position. He often bends, sometimes works at great heights, prepares materials manually and often carries heavy loads. If the tiler runs his own business he contracts with customers independently, negotiates timelines, makes calculations, negotiates labour price and gives advice on the selection of tiles. Tilers carry out major part of their work by themselves or with their assistant, but to have everything done in the new building they also have to collaborate with other workers.

### Desirable traits/requirements

- Manual dexterity/ hand skills;
- Good sight and sense of shape and colour;
- Strength and stamina;
- Precision and sense of proportion;
- Spatial orientation;
- Responsibility;
- Communication skills;
- Being well-organized.

### Positive aspects:

- The tiler performs a versatile and responsible job and mainly does everything by himself from the beginning to the end. This job is in high demand, as it is hard to find a good tiler today.

### Negative aspects:

- The tiler's job is physically demanding and is often performed in a bending or kneeling position. As construction is always carried out according to a schedule, the work is often hectic. Outdoor work includes working in all weather conditions.

## Career path/ fields of work

The tiler's job requires completion of a three-year secondary vocational education. As tiling is a type of craft, the trainings and courses for upgrading knowledge and acquisition of additional competences are available.

Tilers may be hired by the construction companies or work on their own.