

Builders make up the largest segment of the Naval Construction Force. They work as carpenters, plasterers, roofers, concrete finishers, masons, painters, bricklayers, and cabinet makers.

This is a 5 year enlistment program.

What they do

The duties performed by BUs include:

- building and repairing wood, masonry concrete, and steel structures;
- installing interior finish work, including installing sheet rock, paneling or ceramic tile walls and installing ceiling and floor tile, millwork and trim;
- operating carpentry, cabinet-making, and tool and equipment repair shops;
- building forms for concrete construction;
- mixing, placing and finishing concrete;
- operating concrete batch plants, portable concrete mixers and other concrete finishing equipment and tools;
- building wharves, bridges and other heavy timber structures;
- reading and interpreting blueprints and preparing sketches for projects;
- Making estimates of material, labor, and equipment requirements.

Credit Recommendations

The American Council on Education recommends the following semester hour credits in the associate and vocational degree programs, 3 semester hours for both construction materials and interior finish, 4 semester hours in framing and exterior finish, 1 semester hour in technical mathematics, and 2 semester hours in applied mathematics. An AA in Construction Technology and an

Career Path After Recruit Training

Enlistees are taught the fundamentals of this rating through formal Navy schooling. Advanced technical and operational training in these ratings are available during later stages of career development.

School	Present Location	Approximate Training Time	Subjects	Training Methods
Class "A" Technical School	Gulfport, MS	Approximately 12 Weeks	Basic construction skills and theories required in the BU rating and basic combat skills.	Group and individual instruction.

Following completion of basic technical training, graduates can expect assignments to a Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) in Port Hueneme, CA or Gulfport, MS, or to an Amphibious Construction Battalion (ACB) in San Diego, CA or Little Creek, VA. NMCBs operate on a rotating basis between homeport and overseas locations such as Spain, Okinawa or Guam. Seabees receive additional specialized combat and construction skills training during home port duty. Seabees construct buildings, roadways, utility systems and other shore facilities to support the Navy and Marine Corps operational and expeditionary forces worldwide.

AAS in Building Studies can be earned from Coastline Community College and Thomas Edison State College, respectively.

Qualifications and Interests

For success in the builder rating, people should be oriented toward the use of tools, equipment and machines and have a high degree of manual dexterity. Knowledge of algebra and arithmetic with mixed fractions is important. Helpful qualities are a good memory, curiosity, and an ability to get along with people and the ability to express ideas orally and in writing. Also helpful is resourcefulness, the ability to keep records, do detailed work and perform repetitive tasks. Good physical condition is also necessary. Normal hearing is required.

Working Environment.

BU's may work in a variety of conditions, independently or as members of a large team. Their many different duties may be performed in climates ranging from tropical to arctic.

Opportunities

Opportunities to enter the BU rating are excellent for qualified applicants.

About 2,380 men and women work as Builders in the Navy.

Related Civilian Jobs O-Net SOC Code

- 47-1011.00 First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers
- 47-2021.00 Brick masons and Block masons
- 47-2031.01 Construction Carpenters
- 47-2031.02 Rough Carpenters
- 47-2044.00 Tile and Marble Setters
- 47-2051.00 Cement Masons and Concrete Finishers
- 47-2081.00 Drywall and Ceiling Tile Installers
- 47-2181.00 Roofers
- 47-4011.00 Construction and Building Inspectors
- 51-7011.00 Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters

Since Navy programs and courses are revised at times, the information contained on this rating card is subject to change.

(Revised 01/08)