

PLUMBING

Plumbers layout, test and maintain pipes, fixtures, metal roofing, fittings, gas meters and regulators. They install equipment such as boilers, pumps, heating and cooling systems, natural gas appliances, water tanks, water heaters and solar water heating systems.

Typical Duties:

- Prepare and/or study drawings and specifications to work out the layout of plumbing systems and materials needed
- Find and mark position for connections, then cut holes through walls and floors to accommodate pipes, measure pipes and mark cutting or bending lines
- Cut, thread and bend pipes, assemble and install piping, valves and fittings, join pipe sections and secure pipes
- Test lines as required by local plumbing regulations
- Install plumbing fixtures such as toilets, wash basins and industrial processing units
- Maintain and repair plumbing systems.

Subject to licensing restrictions plumbers may perform all of the tasks listed above, or specialise in one area.

Ideal Personal Requirements to gain an Apprenticeship:

- Ability to work with your hands
- Ability to work at heights, in confined spaces and in various weather conditions
- Good physical fitness
- Entry requirements may vary but, generally, you need at least the successful completion of Year 11, including Maths
- Having completed some work experience or study (VET/pre-apprenticeship program) in this industry is highly recommended

Education and Training to become qualified:

- Complete a 4year apprenticeship, working with a licensed plumber
- Trade school training is 'off the job' at a Trade training facility

Upon completion, the apprentice must sit an exam to become a licensed Plumber.