

industrial shop or any courses which familiarize you with geometrical layout and millwork. These classes will help you to develop the dexterity and practical thinking skills you will need as an apprentice cabinetmaker or millworker.

WHAT ARE THE HOURS AND WORKING CONDITIONS OF A CABINETMAKER/ MILLWORKER?

Cabinetmakers and millworkers generally work eight-hour days, and normally spend the entire day inside a shop or large plant. Apprentices usually start out by helping journeymen with basic tasks like material handling, sanding, and some assembly work, and move into more sophisticated jobs as their knowledge and skills increase. Safety and health are of utmost concern to cabinetmakers and millworkers because of the machinery, tools,



materials and equipment with which they work. Particularly important is that workers use all safety precautions when working with or around woodworking machinery such as cut-off saws, table saws and joiners.



Much of your time as an apprentice will be spent learning about safety and health. You will also learn about the characteristics and properties of woods and other material used in mill-cabinet shops. You will learn to operate numerous pieces of equipment and machinery, and to do a lot of different operations. However, most cabinetmakers and millworkers become highly specialized—such as benchworker, detailer, or shaper operator. It will be up to you to find your place in the shop. But through apprenticeship, **the sky's the limit!**

The rewards of apprenticeship training are the good wages and benefits you receive as a skilled craftsman. Union mill-cabinet workers belong to the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. You'll be working in a good shop under the protection of a union contract, which means that you will probably have some form of health insurance and pension and welfare benefits. It pays to be the best you can be—an apprentice-trained cabinetmaker/millworker.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

www.carpenters.org/training

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You can become a

Cabinetmaker or Millworker



WHAT IS A CABINETMAKER OR MILLWORKER?

Take a look around you. Notice the details and fine craftsmanship that go into creating the woodwork, cabinetry and decor in shopping malls, bank buildings, hotels and office buildings. This cabinetry and millwork is the creation of craftspeople who like to work with their hands, and take pride in working with the finest materials and tools money can buy.

WHAT DO CABINETMAKERS AND MILLWORKERS DO?

They cut, shape and assemble wood products, including moldings, panels and furniture. They also fabricate store fixtures, which includes the use of metal, plastics, and glass. Many work on exhibits and display cases. Cabinetmakers and millworkers operate a number of machines, including power saws, planers, joiners and shapers.



HOW DO I LEARN CABINETMAKING AND MILLWORK?

Training for cabinetmakers and millworkers is generally available through local labor-management apprenticeship committees. These committees, made up of contractor and union representatives, make sure you get proper instruction while you are working to earn a good wage. The first thing to do is call your local Mill/Cabinet or Carpenters union to get more information. And remember, cabinetmakers and

millworkers are members of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, a proud organization with more than 650,000 members. **Check it out!**

WHAT IS AN APPRENTICE?

An apprentice is someone who is learning a trade while working under the guidance of skilled workers of that trade, called journeymen. Apprenticeship is on-the-job training. You earn while you learn and you are paid a wage from the first day you become an apprentice. Today, many women are training as apprentices, too. Beginning apprentices usually start at about half of the journeyman rate of pay. Your wages are increased periodically, usually every six months, until you reach the full journeyman scale at the end of the apprenticeship period. In most cases the length of your apprenticeship is four years, with no cost to you for the training. **What a bargain!**

HOW CAN I PREPARE MYSELF FOR APPRENTICESHIP?

If you are still in school, you should take classes in mathematics, drafting or mechanical drawing,

