

# What Does a Builder Do?

## What does a builder do?

The main job that a builder has is that they build things. From roads, to churches, houses and skyscrapers, a builder's job is to choose the right materials to make or repair a building. Builders need to be friendly because they work with a team of people to get the job done.

## Which material was best?

Builders use different materials to make houses. Some materials are very strong and others are weak. Builders need to choose their materials carefully.

When the Three Little Pigs decided to make a house they chose different building materials. The first Little Pig made his house out of straw and it was easily blown down by the Big Bad Wolf.

Unfortunately, the house of sticks was also too weak and was not a great material. The best material by far was the bricks that were used to make the house of the third Little Pig.

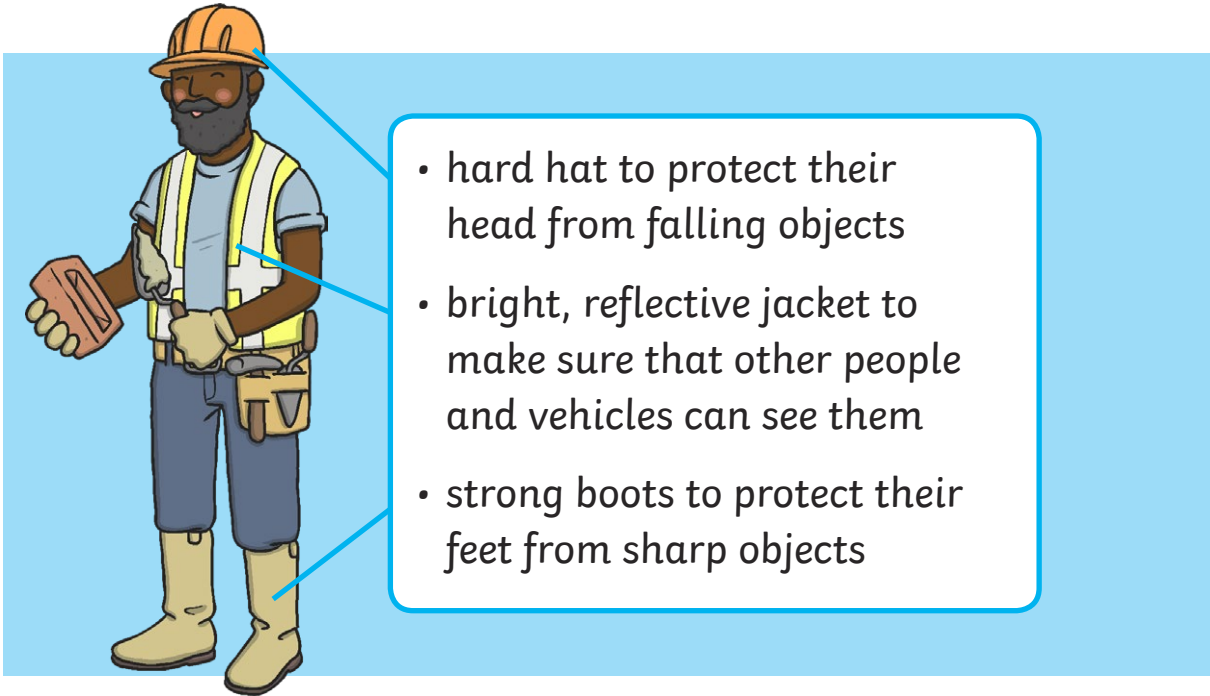


## Where do they work?

Builders work in lots of different places although most of the time they work on a building site. The building site may be quite small if they are just building one house or it could be very big if they are building a supermarket. Most builders work outside and so they need to be able to work in different types of weather.

## What do builders wear?

Builders wear comfy clothes that let them move about easily. They need to be able to carry heavy objects like bricks, metal poles and bags of cement. They also wear some clothes to keep themselves safe.



# What Does a Builder Do? Questions

Try and answer these questions using full sentences.

1. Which material did the first little pig make his house out of?

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2. Where does a builder normally work?

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3. Finish this sentence:

*Builders wear comfy clothes that...*

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4. Why do builders wear strong boots?

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5. Name two heavy objects that a builder may need to carry.

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6. Would you like to become a builder? Why?

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# What Does a Builder Do? **Answers**

1. Which material did the first little pig make his house out of?

**The first little pig made his house out of straw.**

2. Where does a builder normally work?

**Builders work in lots of different places although most of the time they work on a building site.**

3. Finish this sentence: *Builders wear comfy clothes that...*

**Plumbers sometimes drive a van to get from one place to another.**

4. Why do builders wear strong boots?

**Builders wear strong boots to protect their feet from sharp objects**

5. Name two heavy objects that a builder may need to carry.

**Builders need to be able to carry heavy objects like bricks, metal poles and bags of cement.**

6. Would you like to become a builder? Why?

**Accept pupil's own response with justification from the text.**

# What Does a Builder Do?

## Which material is best?

Buildings can be made from a variety of materials including bricks, mud, concrete and glass. A builder's job is to choose the most appropriate material to build with.

The materials are all used for different purposes. Some people want their building to be light and spacious and so will use glass as their material. Others may want to make a building that is warm and cosy and so will use bricks to make strong, wind-proof walls.



## What roles and responsibilities do builders have?

The role of a builder will change depending upon what the project is, but mostly a builder's job is to build! Whether it is a school, a house, a tunnel or a road, builders help to make things to us to live in and use. Builders need different tools to help them on the job. A builder's toolbox will often include: a hammer and nails, screws, saws, screwdrivers and electrical tools.

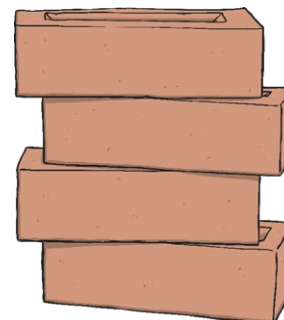
Builders need to make sure that they follow the blueprints drawn by the architect to make the building. The blueprints are carefully drawn making sure that everything is included.

## Where do they work?

Builders work on different sized building sites, from a small extension on a house to building a sports stadium. They often have vans that they keep their tools inside which lets them travel from one place to another. House builders work in towns, cities and the countryside. Building companies will often be working on different projects at the same time.

## What do builders wear?

Builders wear comfortable clothes that they can move easily in. As they work in a dangerous



environment, they also wear clothes that protect them. When working on a building site, builders need to wear a hard hat to protect their head from falling materials. They also need to wear strong boots in case they stand on something sharp. If they are on the roadside, they also need to wear a reflective jacket because it lets the cars know where they are.

### **How do you become a builder?**

If you want to become a builder, the best way is to get work experience with a building company.



# What Does a Builder Do? Questions

Try and answer these questions using full sentences.

1. Name two materials that a builder could build with.

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2. Where do builders store their tools?

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3. Name two things that a builder might build.

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4. Why might someone use glass to build with?

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5. What is the best way to become a builder?

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6. Finish this sentence:

*As they work in a dangerous environment,...*

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7. What are 'blueprints' used for?

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8. What would be the hardest part of being a builder?

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# What Does a Builder Do? **Answers**

1. Name two materials that a builder could build with.

**Builders may use a variety of materials including bricks, mud, concrete and glass.**

2. Where do builders store their tools?

**Builders store their tools in a tool box. You could also accept they store their tools in a van (when moving from place to place).**

3. Name two things that a builder might build.

**Builders build all sorts of things, including roads, tunnels, bridges and houses.**

4. Why might someone use glass to build with?

**Some people want their building to be light and spacious and so will use glass as their material.**

5. What is the best way to become a builder?

**The best way to become a builder is to get work experience with a building company.**

6. Finish this sentence: *As they work in a dangerous environment,...*

**An example sentence may be: As they work in a dangerous environment, they also wear clothes that protect them.**

7. What are 'blueprints' used for?

**Blueprints are drawings of a building. They are used by the builders to make the building the exact shape and size that it needs to be.**

8. What would be the hardest part of being a builder?

**Accept pupil's own response with justification from the text.**



# What Does a Builder Do?

Ever wondered how huge skyscrapers are made? Or how a piece of land can be transformed into a beautiful home? This is all down to the hard work of a builder who use their skill and accuracy to create and repair buildings.

## Big Buildings!

There are many amazing buildings around the world. Here are some brilliant building facts:

- Around 20,000 workers helped to build the Taj Mahal in India.
- The Empire State Building in New York was the first ever building to have 100 floors. Until 1972, it was also the tallest building in the world.
- The Burj Khalifa in Dubai, is the tallest building in the world. It reaches an amazing 828 metres (2717 feet) in height.



## What roles and responsibilities do builders have?

From small repair jobs, to sorting out roads, building an extension or even building a brand new building, the main role a builder has is to build things! When a project is complete you move onto the next one, so it's certainly a job of variety, where you'll meet new people.

Once the architect has drawn a blueprint of the new building, the builders will turn the drawings into a reality. The builders will be on site until the whole building is finished, from checking the land ready for building to putting the doors and windows in.

## Where do they work?

If you don't want to be anywhere near a desk, you're in luck, as builders can work in a range of environments, including working by the roadside, in residential areas and at demolition sites. Builders normally work around 40 hours per week, sometimes in shifts

and so will work during the day and the night. As most building work is done outside, builders are used to working in all weather conditions. If the weather is particularly bad, a project might be delayed, for example, if there is a lot of snow or flooding.

### **What do builders wear?**

As most of the job involves them carrying and lifting heavy materials, builders tend to wear comfortable clothes to work in. There are a few items that builders wear to keep themselves safe. The first is a hard hat that protects their head from any falling materials. They also wear a high visibility jacket with reflective strips. This allows people (and traffic) to see them when they are working. Some builders may also wear hard, reinforced shoes that protect their feet from sharp nails or other debris that may be on the floor during the building work.

### **How do you become a builder?**

Many building companies offer apprenticeships which allows people to learn how to become a builder as they go. There are different courses that builders can attend that allows them to specialise in a particular area e.g. welding or scaffolding.



# What Does a Builder Do? Questions

Answer the questions below in full sentences.

1. What is a builder's main role?

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2. Who draws the blueprint of the building?

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3. How many hours a week do builders normally work?

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4. Which building is currently the tallest in the world?

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5. Why might a building project be delayed?

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6. Why do builders wear a reflective jacket?

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# What Does a Builder Do? Questions

7. Which specialist courses could a builder go on?

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8. Why do builders need to wear protective clothing?

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9. Would you like to become a builder? Why?

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10. What do you think the best part of being a builder would be?

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# What Does a Builder Do? Answers

1. What is a builder's main role?

**The main role of a builder is to build things!**

2. Who draws the blueprint of the building?

**An architect draws the blueprint.**

3. How many hours a week do builders normally work?

**Builders normally work around 40 hours per week, sometimes in shifts and so will work during the day and the night.**

4. Which building is currently the tallest in the world?

**The Burj Khalifa in Dubai is the tallest building in the world.**

5. Why might a building project be delayed?

**A building project may be delayed if the weather is particularly bad, for example snow or flooding.**

6. Why do builders wear a reflective jacket?

**It allows people and traffic to see them when they are working.**

7. Which specialist courses could a builder go on?

**There are different courses that builders can attend that allows them to specialise in a particular area, e.g. welding or scaffolding.**

8. Why do builders need to wear protective clothing?

**Accept varied answers that may include:**

- **Building sites can be dangerous with the different tools that they use.**
- **Heavy objects may fall onto them.**
- **Some of the tools are electrical so there can be lots of wires laying around.**
- **If you are working on up high (like on a roof), you could fall.**

9. Would you like to become a builder? Why?

**Accept pupil's own response with justification from the text.**

10. What do you think the best part of being a builder would be?

**Accept pupil's own response with justification from the text.**