

Occupations in Plumbing

Building Trades

> Plumber/Pipefitter Helper > Plumbing Teacher > Steamfitter

Plumbing Fun Facts

- In the 1950s, Lillian Baumbach Jacobs became the first woman master plumber. Her family established Baumbach Plumbing and Remodeling in 1928, and the company is still in business today.
- Albert Einstein was named an honorary member of the Plumbers and Steamfitters Union after publicly saying, "If I had my life to live over again, I'd be a plumber."
- The evidence of indoor plumbing dates back to the Pyramid of Cheops in Egypt, where archeologists recovered a portion of a water plumbing system.
- In a standard home, over 9,000 gallons of water are wasted while running the faucet waiting for hot water.
- If a drip from your faucet fills an eight ounce glass in 15 minutes, it will waste 180 gallons per month and 2,160 gallons per year.

Source: <http://www.1800anytyme.com/blog/fun-plumbing-facts/48/>

Break free of the traditions and barriers that limit your choices.
What's stopping you? Be different! Try something new!
Is a nontraditional career in your future?

Talk to your school counselor
about a nontraditional career in STS.

www.UtahCTE.org



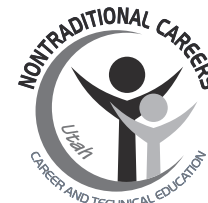
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Plumbing

A NONTRADITIONAL CAREER PATH FOR WOMEN



Break free of the barriers that limit your career choices.



SKILLED AND TECHNICAL SCIENCES EDUCATION

Nontraditional Careers

Did you know a nontraditional career is any occupation in which women or men comprise 25 percent or less of its total employment?

Women in nontraditional occupations earn more money than those in female-oriented fields.

Choosing a nontraditional career path can mean:

- > Greater job satisfaction.
- > Higher wages and better benefits.
- > Great advancement opportunities.
- > Economic self-sufficiency.
- > Broader job opportunities.
- > Freedom to pursue a career related to your interests and abilities.

BREAK with tradition and explore a nontraditional career!

Plumbing as a Careers

Plumbers assemble, install, and repair pipes, fittings, and fixtures of heating, water, and drainage systems according to specifications and plumbing codes.

Reading comprehension is an important skill to have for this career. The ability to read and understand written instructions, and then apply that knowledge in a hands-on manner, is key.

Career and Technical Education Pathways

High school is a great time to try out a wide range of Career Pathways by enrolling in Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses. As an added bonus, you will be developing work related skills that can be put to immediate and profitable use.

CTE provides courses and Pathways consistent with industry training and certification, thus providing depth and meaning for both visual and hands-on learning and education that can be applied in today's job market.

Through participation in CTE, Skilled and Technical Sciences Education can guide you as you take courses in your chosen Pathway.

By taking an STS course, you will acquire essential technical and leadership skills, and learn how to properly use tools and equipment that will enable you to successfully work in your area of choice. You will also gain an important foundation of knowledge and skills necessary for continuing your education in STS.

Employment

Plumbers, pipelayers, pipefitters, and steamfitters are among the highest paid construction careers, and plumbing is one of the largest construction occupations. In 2008, over 555,000 jobs were held in this occupation in the United States.¹

In Utah, an entry-level position for a plumber generally starts at an average hourly wage of \$14.50, or \$30,160 per year.² Increases in salary are based upon training and experience. In Utah, a plumber must be licensed.

Working Conditions

Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters need physical strength as well as stamina, because they must frequently lift heavy pipes, stand for long periods, and sometimes work in uncomfortable or cramped positions. They also may have to work outdoors in inclement weather. In addition, they are subject to possible falls from ladders, cuts from sharp tools, and burns from hot pipes or soldering equipment.

1.4 percent of pipelayers, plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters are women.³

Outlook

Demand for plumbers will stem from new construction and renovation, repair, and maintenance of existing buildings. The growing importance of water conservation will require the retrofitting of existing systems.

In Utah, the annual growth rate in this occupation is expected to be 3.4 percent through the year 2016, with employment totaling 7,340.²

UtahFutures

Log on to UtahFutures.org to learn more about a career as a plumber. From the home page, click on the "occupations" option to find an occupation that interests you and link to the description for that occupation. (Refer to the sample list of occupations on the back of this page.) Check out employment opportunities, working conditions, outlook, skills and abilities, and wages for your selected occupation.

Is a nontraditional career in your future?

¹ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

² Utah Department of Workforce Services

³ Department of Labor, Women's Bureau, Nontraditional Occupations for Women in 2008