

SCHOOLS 2 SKILLS

RIGGER—CAREER OVERVIEW

Riggers are the people who expertly use ropes, pulleys, cables, chains, and other gear to move a heavy load from one place to another. Their job is highly specialised using equipment specially designed for moving, lifting and positioning machinery and gear weighing hundreds of tons.

What might a rigger's working day look like?

Your work will vary according to the type of construction job and certificate level you have achieved. Each certificate is a prerequisite for the next level and allows the rigger to work with more complex equipment.

- + A basic rigger will mainly be erecting steel columns and roofing for simple buildings such as factories
- + Intermediate riggers work in concrete construction and on more complex construction sites
- + An advanced rigger gets to work on even more complicated projects

As a rigger you must be able to:

- + Examine objects to be moved, estimate their size, shape and weight and decide on the type of equipment necessary to move them
- + Erect a temporary jib or derrick if required, and install cables, pulleys and other tackle
- + Choose or make slinging equipment and attach it to the load
- + Erect cranes and mobile crane booms, and increase the height of tower cranes by bolting component parts in place and rigging cables
- + Splice ropes and cables to make slings and tackle
- + Erect structural steel for buildings or plants under construction
- + Erect precast-concrete panels used on facades of buildings
- + Inspect, maintain and repair equipment
- + Make sure that safety requirements are met at all times
- + Work accurately and economically and follow national and local building codes

To be a successful rigger you should:

- + Have good concentration skills and be able to follow verbal instructions accurately
- + Be able to visually judge distances
- + Have a careful, methodical and accurate approach to work
- + Be interested in practical work and have good manual skills
- + Have an awareness of safety issues, especially for working at heights
- + Have the ability to work as part of a team

Where does a rigger work?

Riggers mainly work outdoors on construction sites, travelling between sites once each job is complete. They can also be found in the construction side of the entertainment industry setting up stages and building film sets.

What can the future hold?

If you're ambitious and willing to work hard, there are no limits to where a career as a rigger can take you. You can be employed on large construction projects or even start your own company.

Fantastic! How do I get started?

To become a rigger you will need accredited training to gain each certificate level required. For further information about a Certificate III **Traineeship** in Rigging, search Apprenticentre or call 13 19 54

For information about accredited courses, assessment and certificate levels contact Worksafe WA or visit their website at institute.safetyline.wa.gov.au

SKILLS FROM SCHOOLS

