

# FLOOR COVERING

## Floor Covering Installer

Do you like working indoors? Are you strong and physically fit? Do you like working with others? Do you have an eye for colour? Are you good at measuring things? Are you like working with your hands? Then, you could be a floor covering installer!

## What the work is like

Floor covering installers install carpet, wood, linoleum, vinyl and other resilient floor coverings in residential, commercial, industrial and institutional buildings.

They are employed by floor-covering contractors, installation companies and carpet retailers, or they may be self-employed as subcontractors.

Floor covering installers work in the new home building and renovation, and institutional and commercial construction sectors.

## Your duties

As a floor covering installer, your duties may include:

- Installing carpeting, hardwood floors, trims and bases to floors or other surfaces
- Inspecting, measuring and preparing surfaces to be covered
- Inspecting and repairing damaged floor coverings
- Estimating material and labour costs



## Work conditions

The standard work week for floor covering installers is 40 hours (8 hours a day, 5 days a week). As with many careers in construction, there are peak periods that will require you to work overtime. The number of additional hours you work each week depends on the construction sector and region you work in, and will vary from one job to the next. You may have to work occasional nights when renovating offices or other public buildings that are occupied. Usually you are paid overtime for this!

As a floor covering installer, you will work mostly indoors, usually with a team of other workers. The job is physically demanding and often involves lifting heavy materials and kneeling for long periods of time.

As with all careers in the construction industry, safety is the top priority. Floor covering installers are trained to work safely, and take special precautions to protect themselves from injury.

## Building your career

With experience and additional training you can progress to supervisory positions. You can also move into sales or customer relations. Another option is to become self-employed. You can work as a private contractor, or set up your own retail business.

As with most careers in the construction industry, your skills are portable. If you want to move, you can take your skills with you.

## More information:

Gauteng Master Builders Association

Tel: 011-805 6611  
[www.gmba.org.za](http://www.gmba.org.za)

