

Make or  
Fix Things

# Floor Covering Installer

## Other names for this job

Carpet layer

## What do floor covering installers do?

Floor covering installers put in new floor coverings. For example, carpet or **vinyl** flooring. Floor covering installers also repair and replace floor coverings. They work in homes and businesses.

## Meet a floor covering installer

Jay is a floor covering installer. He installs floor coverings in homes and office buildings.

Here are things that Jay does:

- He gets the floor ready for the floor covering. The floor must be clean and smooth.
- He figures out the **material** that he will need.
- He measures the room. Then he measures the floor covering. Then he cuts it.

- He uses glue for vinyl flooring and some carpet.
- He repairs damage. He puts in new pieces of floor covering.
- He covers stairs with carpet.

### tip

Do you see words in **bold**?  
You can look up these words at  
[alis.alberta.ca/ERdictionary](http://alis.alberta.ca/ERdictionary).



## What is Jay's work like?

Jay works indoors. He works 5 days a week. He usually works from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sometimes he has to work extra hours. He sometimes works alone.

Jay has to stand, bend and kneel a lot. He sometimes wears knee pads.

Jay lifts and moves floor coverings and **equipment**. These things may weigh over 20 kilograms (over 45 pounds).

Jay uses sharp tools. He has to be careful. He doesn't want to cut himself.

Jay also uses strong glue. He needs to wear a face mask.

## Do you want to be a floor covering installer?

- You need to be healthy and strong.
- You must like physical work. You need to bend and kneel a lot.
- You must like working with your hands.
- You must have good eyesight. You have to be able to see colours. For example, Jay has to match the colours on two pieces of carpet.
- You should be good with numbers. You have to measure things.
- You need to work well with customers.

## What education do floor covering installers need?

- Some floor covering installers learn on the job. They don't need a high school **diploma**.
- Some floor covering installers take courses. They may get a **certificate**.
- Floor covering installers can take an **apprenticeship**. They learn on the job and take courses at a **post-secondary school**. After 2 years, they can become a **journeyperson** floor covering installer.

You can ask your **career advisor** or tutor about working as a floor covering installer. You can ask about training, too.





## What can floor covering installers do in the future?

Floor covering installers can work for stores and floor covering companies. Installers with **experience** may become **supervisors**. Some installers may become salespersons.

Some floor covering installers with experience may start their own business.

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### How much does a floor covering installer make?

A floor covering installer usually makes between \$14.00 and \$38.46 per hour.

## Do you want more information?

You can find the information below at [alis.alberta.ca/occinfo](http://alis.alberta.ca/occinfo). Or you can ask your career advisor or tutor.

- OCCinfo profile: Floorcovering Installer
- Video: Painter and Decorator
- Easy Reading Dictionary

You can also ask your career advisor or tutor about jobs that are like Floor Covering Installer. 

## Other jobs to think about

**Painters** work on the inside and outside of buildings. They put on paint and wallpaper. They use brushes, rollers and spray guns.

**Roofers** repair old roofs. They work on new roofs. They prepare the roof. They put on **shingles** or other roofing material.

**Tilesetters** work on the inside and outside of buildings. They put tile on walls and floors. They use tiles, stone and other materials.

