

CARPENTER

JOB DESCRIPTION

Norway 2026 | Complete Guide | Duties, Skills & Salary

QUICK FACTS

Hourly Rate: 280-300 NOK/hr

Overtime: +40-100%

Work Week: 37.5 hours

Monthly Salary: €4,000-€5,500

Holiday Pay: +12% (feriepenger)

Recruitment: Free for workers

JOB OVERVIEW

A carpenter working in Norway performs skilled construction work on residential, commercial, and infrastructure projects. Norwegian construction follows TEK17 building standards — among the strictest in Europe — and all sites enforce HMS (Health, Environment, Safety) protocols. Carpenters work as part of international teams where English is the common working language.

T&A Nordic by JobsPeek recruits experienced carpenters from EU/EEA countries for verified Norwegian employers. The recruitment service is completely free for workers.

KEY DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Read and interpret construction blueprints, technical drawings, and project specifications
- Measure, cut, and shape wood, plywood, composite materials, and metal framing components
- Build and install formwork for concrete foundations, walls, columns, and slabs
- Construct structural frameworks including walls, floors, roof trusses, and stairways
- Install doors, windows, interior fittings, trim, molding, and cabinetry
- Operate power tools: circular saw, mitre saw, nail gun, power drill, router, planer
- Ensure all work meets TEK17 Norwegian building standards and project specifications
- Follow HMS (Health, Environment, Safety) regulations at all times on site
- Inspect and maintain tools, equipment, and materials; report defects to supervisor
- Collaborate with project managers, engineers, electricians, plumbers, and other trades
- Maintain a clean, organized, and safe work area throughout the project
- Perform quality checks on completed work; correct deficiencies before sign-off

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Mandatory:

- EU/EEA citizenship (work in Norway without a permit)
- HMS Safety Card (Helse, Miljø og Sikkerhet) — mandatory for all Norwegian construction sites. Short course available if you do not have one.
- Minimum 1 year of professional carpentry experience (3+ years preferred)
- Basic English communication skills (Norwegian is a plus, not required)

- Physical fitness for construction work (lifting, climbing, standing for extended periods)
- Blueprint reading and measurement skills

Preferred (increase your salary and job options):

- Working at Heights certification
- CSCS Card (Construction Skills Certification Scheme)
- NVQ Level 2 or 3 in Carpentry/Joinery
- First Aid certificate
- Forklift license
- Driver license (B, C, or CE)
- Own professional tool set

SALARY & COMPENSATION

Norwegian carpenter salaries are regulated by the construction industry tariff agreement (allmenngjøring), enforced by Arbeidstilsynet (Norwegian Labour Inspection Authority). The skilled carpenter rate is 280-300 NOK per hour.

Specialization	Monthly (EUR)	Hourly (NOK)	Overtime
Formwork Carpenter	€4,500-€5,500	280-300	+40-100%
Shuttering Carpenter	€4,500-€5,500	280-300	+40-100%
Framing Carpenter	€4,200-€5,200	280-300	+40-100%
Finish/Interior Carpenter	€4,000-€5,000	280-300	+40-100%
Renovation Carpenter	€4,000-€5,000	280-300	+40-100%
Commercial Carpenter	€4,200-€5,300	280-300	+40-100%
Carpenter Helper (Entry)	€3,500-€4,000	220-260	+40-100%

Additionally, all workers receive 12% holiday pay (feriepenger) on top of their gross salary, paid out separately each June. This effectively adds one extra monthly salary per year.

CARPENTER SPECIALIZATIONS IN NORWAY

Formwork Carpenter

Builds temporary molds (formwork) for pouring concrete. Highest demand in Norway due to large infrastructure projects. Requires precision and understanding of concrete behavior.

Shuttering Carpenter

Specializes in constructing shuttering systems for walls, columns, and foundations. Works with both timber and system formwork (PERI, Doka). Often the highest-paid specialization.

Finish/Interior Carpenter

Installs interior elements: doors, windows, trim, molding, cabinetry, flooring. Requires fine craftsmanship and attention to detail. Growing demand in residential projects.

Framing Carpenter

Constructs the structural framework of buildings: wall studs, floor joists, roof trusses. Core skill in Norwegian wood-frame residential construction.

Renovation Carpenter

Works on restoring, upgrading, and modernizing existing structures. Requires adaptability and problem-solving skills. Steady demand in Norway's aging housing stock.

Commercial/Industrial Carpenter

Works on large-scale projects: office buildings, warehouses, factories, retail spaces. Often involves system formwork and steel-frame hybrid construction.

WORKING CONDITIONS IN NORWAY

- Standard work week: 37.5 hours (Monday-Friday)
- Overtime available on most projects: paid at 40% premium on weekdays, up to 100% on weekends and holidays
- Accommodation: employers help arrange housing near construction sites. Rent is deducted from your monthly salary (typically €600-€1,200/month depending on city and standard)
- Safety: Norwegian construction sites follow HMS (Health, Environment, Safety) regulations and TEK17 building standards. Personal protective equipment is provided.
- Equal treatment: Norwegian law guarantees foreign workers the same rights, pay, and conditions as Norwegian workers
- Work environment: international teams, English commonly spoken. Professional, well-organized sites.
- Contract types: both project-based (3-12 months) and long-term positions available

HOW TO APPLY

Step 1

Visit [jobspeek.com](https://www.jobspeek.com) and fill out the carpenter application form with your experience, specializations, and certifications. Takes approximately 10 minutes.

Step 2

Our recruitment team reviews your profile within 48 hours and assesses your qualifications against current employer requirements.

Step 3

We match your profile with verified Norwegian employers and present you with suitable positions, including salary, accommodation details, and project information.

Step 4

Once you accept a position, we assist with onboarding: HMS card, registration, accommodation, and travel coordination. You typically start working within 2-4 weeks.

PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST

- Valid EU/EEA passport or national ID card
- HMS Safety Card (or willingness to complete course before starting)
- CV / resume with carpentry experience detailed
- Copies of relevant certifications (working at heights, CSCS, NVQ, etc.)
- Portfolio photos of completed work (recommended)
- European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) for initial healthcare coverage
- Bank account in home country for salary transfer (Norwegian account can be set up after arrival)
- Basic English proficiency for site communication

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