

Flooring Installers and Tile and Stone Setters

SOC: 47-2040 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$52,000

Median Salary

112,300

Employment

+6.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: No formal educational credential

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Medium Risk - 35.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job has some routine elements but still requires human judgment and interaction.

■■ Work-Life Balance

5.1/10 - Fair work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	9.4/10	Investigative	5.8/10
Artistic	4.0/10	Social	5.0/10
Enterprising	5.0/10	Conventional	6.0/10

■ Top Skills Required

Color vision, Customer-service skills, Detail oriented, Math skills, Physical stamina, Physical strength

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Flooring Installers and Tile and Stone Setters are skilled trades professionals who install **floor coverings and hard-surface materials** in residential, commercial, and industrial buildings. Their work shapes the durability, safety, and appearance of interior and exterior spaces by precisely fitting materials such as hardwood, carpet, vinyl, tile, marble, and stone. Quality installation is critical to long-lasting floors and visually polished environments.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy hands-on work, craftsmanship, and seeing tangible results from their skills.

What Do Flooring Installers and Tile and Stone Setters Do?

These workers prepare surfaces and install flooring materials according to design plans and industry standards. Their responsibilities emphasize precision, durability, and aesthetics.

Common responsibilities include:

- Measuring and preparing floors or surfaces for installation
- Cutting, fitting, and laying flooring materials
- Installing tile and stone using mortar, grout, or adhesives
- Aligning patterns and ensuring level, even surfaces
- Repairing or replacing damaged flooring or tiles
- Sealing and finishing floors to protect surfaces
- Following safety procedures and building specifications

Types of Flooring and Surface Specialists

This occupation includes several specialized roles:

- Flooring Installers: Install carpet, vinyl, laminate, hardwood, and other floor coverings.
- Tile Setters: Lay ceramic, porcelain, or mosaic tile on floors and walls.
- Stone Setters: Install marble, granite, slate, and natural stone surfaces.
- Resilient Flooring Installers: Work with vinyl, linoleum, and rubber flooring.
- Finish and Repair Specialists: Restore or refinish existing flooring and stonework.

Skills and Abilities Needed

Flooring installers and tile and stone setters combine technical skill with physical ability.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Training Pathway

Most flooring installers and tile and stone setters enter the field through hands-on training:

- High School Diploma or Equivalent: Typical minimum requirement
- On-the-Job Training or Apprenticeships: Learning materials, techniques, and safety practices
- Vocational or Trade Programs (helpful): Flooring, construction, or masonry training
- Safety Training: Instruction in tool use and workplace safety
- Advancement Opportunities: Progression to lead installer, supervisor, or contractor

Where Do Flooring Installers and Tile and Stone Setters Work?

These professionals work across construction and renovation settings:

- Residential Homes and Apartments
- Commercial Buildings and Offices
- Retail Stores and Hospitality Venues

- Construction and Remodeling Companies
- Public Buildings and Infrastructure Projects
- Self-Employed or Contract-Based Work

Work is typically performed on-site and may involve travel between job locations.

How Much Do Flooring Installers and Tile and Stone Setters Earn?

Earnings vary by specialization, experience, and location:

- Entry-Level Installers: Typically earn hourly wages while learning the trade
- Experienced Installers or Setters: Often earn higher pay due to skill and efficiency
- Specialized Stone or Custom Work: May command higher rates

Income may increase with overtime, contracting, or business ownership.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career is physically demanding and detail-intensive. Workers spend long hours kneeling, lifting materials, and working in confined spaces. The challenge lies in maintaining precision and quality while meeting project timelines and physical demands.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy hands-on construction or finishing work
- Like working with materials and tools
- Take pride in visible, finished results
- Are comfortable with physical labor
- Want a skilled trade with steady demand

How to Prepare Early

- Take shop or construction-related courses
- Learn basic math, measuring, and geometry skills
- Practice working with tools safely
- Gain experience through helper or apprentice roles
- Observe experienced installers and ask questions on job sites

Flooring installers and tile and stone setters transform raw surfaces into durable, functional, and visually striking spaces, combining craftsmanship, precision, and physical skill in every project.