Architects

SOC: 17-1011 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

$96,690	**123,600**	**+4.0%**
Median Salary	Employment	Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: Bachelor's degree

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Low Risk - 17.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

■■ Work-Life Balance

6.1/10 - Good work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	8.2/10	**Investigative**	8.8/10
Artistic	6.4/10	**Social**	5.2/10
Enterprising	5.8/10	**Conventional**	6.6/10

■ Top Skills Required

Analytical skills, Communication skills, Creativity, Organizational skills, Technical skills, Visualization skills

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Architects plan, design, and oversee the construction of buildings and other structures. **They combine creativity, technical knowledge, and project management skills to ensure structures are functional, safe, and aesthetically pleasing**. Their work is essential in construction, urban planning, and real estate development.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy design, problem-solving, and creating functional, visually appealing spaces.

What Do Architects Do?

Architects develop building designs, prepare plans, and coordinate construction projects.

Common responsibilities include:

- Meeting with clients to determine project requirements and goals
- Developing conceptual and detailed building designs
- Preparing architectural drawings, blueprints, and models
- Ensuring compliance with building codes, zoning laws, and regulations
- Collaborating with engineers, contractors, and construction teams
- Reviewing and approving construction materials and methods
- Conducting site visits to monitor progress and quality

Key Areas of Architecture

Architects may specialize in specific areas or project types:

- Residential Architecture: Designing homes and housing developments
- Commercial Architecture: Planning office buildings, retail centers, and industrial spaces
- Landscape and Urban Design: Integrating buildings with outdoor spaces and urban planning
- Sustainable and Green Design: Incorporating environmentally friendly practices and energy efficiency
- Interior Architecture: Designing functional and aesthetic interior spaces

Skills and Abilities Needed

Architects combine creative vision with technical expertise.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires formal education and professional licensure:

- Bachelor's or Master's Degree: Architecture or related field
- Internship or Architectural Residency: Practical experience under licensed architects
- Licensure: Required to practice independently as a professional architect
- Continuing Education: Staying current with design trends, building codes, and technology

Where Do Architects Work?

They are employed across industries that design and construct buildings:

- Architectural Firms
- Construction and Engineering Companies
- Government and Urban Planning Agencies
- Real Estate Development Companies
- Corporate or Private Clients

Work environments may include offices, construction sites, and project locations.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires creativity, technical knowledge, and project management skills. Architects must balance design vision with safety, regulations, budgets, and client expectations.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy design and creative problem-solving
- Have strong technical and analytical skills
- Are detail-oriented and organized
- Like collaborating with clients and construction teams
- Want a career that shapes buildings and communities

How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in math, physics, art, and design
- Explore architecture programs and workshops
- Develop skills in drawing, CAD, and 3D modeling
- Seek internships or mentorships in architecture firms
- Stay informed on building codes, sustainability, and design trends

Architects create functional, safe, and beautiful spaces, transforming ideas into structures that serve communities, businesses, and individuals.