



CARPENTRY

Crafting the next generation of skilled tradespeople, many high schools across the U.S. offer carpentry courses that balance theory, safety, technical skills, and real-world project work.

Location: John F. Kennedy High School

Courses

Carpentry I (Grade 10)

Carpentry I provides students with a strong foundation in safety, tool use, and essential carpentry skills. Students will complete OSHA 10 training and learn to safely operate both hand and power tools in a workshop setting. The course emphasizes measurement, blueprint reading, and layout calculations used in real-world construction. Students will also complete hands-on projects using modern equipment such as the Glowforge laser cutter. This course sets the foundation for continued training in Carpentry II and III, and prepares students for entry-level opportunities in the skilled trades.

Carpentry II (Grade 11)

Carpentry II builds on the foundational skills from Carpentry I, guiding students into more advanced tools, techniques, and project work. Students will continue practicing workplace safety and expand their understanding of tools, materials, and fasteners. Through hands-on projects like building sawhorses, picnic tables, and small stand-alone structures, students will apply new skills such as compound angle cuts, precision measuring, and the use of specialty hardware. This course emphasizes craftsmanship, problem-solving, and employability skills, preparing students for further training in Carpentry III or real-world applications in the carpentry field.

Carpentry III (Grade 12)

Carpentry III builds on previous coursework to enhance students' skills in residential and light construction. Focus is on print reading, site layout, foundation and wall framing, insulation, moisture barriers, drywall installation and finishing, stair construction, and the installation of doors, windows, and

interior trim. Students gain hands-on experience with industry tools and equipment, while reinforcing their understanding of construction components and techniques essential for safe, accurate, and professional-quality work.

Skills Gained

- Hands-on experience
- Critical thinking Skills

Dual Enrollment /College Credit

Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters (EASRCC) / Thomas Edison University

CTSO

- SkillsUSA (www.skillsusa.org)

Certification

- OSHA - 10

Partnership

- Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters
<https://eascarpenters.org/>

Careers

Students who complete the Carpentry I–III sequence are prepared for hands-on careers such as carpenter apprentice, framing carpenter, finish carpenter, drywall installer, door and window installer, trim carpenter, construction laborer, cabinet installer, stair builder, and remodeling assistant. These roles offer a strong foundation for entering the skilled trades and advancing through apprenticeships or further training.