

# WHY WOMEN IN TRADES MATTER





“GIRLS SHOULDN'T WORK IN SUCH TOUGH, DIRTY JOBS.”

“SHE DOESN'T LOOK STRONG ENOUGH TO BE A BUILDER.”

“WOMEN CAN'T BE TRADIES.”

“WHAT'S A CHICK DOING WITH A WRENCH?”

**ANY OF THESE SOUND FAMILIAR TO YOU?**

Most young women decide against a career in trades, for various reasons – and this has a negative effect on productivity and growth in skilled industries.

## HERE ARE SOME OF THE BENEFITS OF A CAREER IN A TRADE:

### PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

Industry offers real, tangible, supported opportunities for growth and career progression, even into managerial roles.

### GET MOVIN'

Being on your feet or moving at work is healthier than sitting in front of a screen all day.

### WORK/LIFE BALANCE

In most cases you will have flexible working hours and conditions or flexible rostered work options where/if needed.

### FAMILY BENEFITS

Free access to the Family Care Link service to assist with finding childcare and other family support services and opportunities for part time employment.

### STRONG WAGES AND BENEFITS

Equal remuneration.

### STARTING STRONG

By starting an apprenticeship in a trade you will get a foot in the door with training, learning on the job, gaining theoretical knowledge, certification and compensation with a competitive wage. Yep – that's no student debt or hanging around on your own wondering what's next.



### KEEN FOR MORE RESOURCES TO HELP YOU START?

We've got your back. Check out these free downloadable resources:

- [1. How to be fearless at work and life](#)
- [2. How to get your brave on](#)
- [3. Ten tips for creating confidence to conquer life](#)

## WOULDN'T TRADE IT FOR THE WORLD

Pursuing or wanting a career in a trade might make you feel like you're venturing down the path 'less travelled'. However, there are many women out there passionately going after exactly what they want – a career in trades! It's important to remember, the most successful journey is the one that works for you, and not just what your friends have decided to do. #YouDoYou

If you are still not convinced, check out these stories from women currently working in trades.



### SARAH LANGER, 2ND YEAR ELECTRICIAN WITH NEW ERA ELECTRICAL SERVICES

**"My favourite part about my job is getting to learn something new every day and the general electrical side of things, I love learning everything there is to know about my trade."**

Read the full interview with Sarah [here](#).



### FRANCESCA O'CONNOR, 2ND YEAR ELECTRICIAN WITH SYDNEY TRAINS

**"I was looking for a job that wasn't so much in the office, I want to be out and about, and I was really interested in gaining a skill. It's really good to see that the managers and the people running the apprentice unit came to push taking more women on."**

Watch the full interview with Francesca [here](#).

## IT'S A WIN-WIN

Did you know that women in trades boost Australia's economy?

Currently, women only total 1% of building trades, Australia's second largest industry. For many years the trade industry has been male-dominated however, in recent years the percentage of women in trade has been on the rise and is continuing to boost Australia's economic growth. By improving the participation rate of women in the workforce, particularly in male-dominated industries like construction, research conducted by UNSW states, **Australia could potentially increase its economic growth by \$25 billion over the next 10 years.**

## EXPLORE 500+ CAREERS, UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

Wondering where or how to begin your trade journey? Look no further! Follow our road and get a kick-start.

### STEP 1 CAREER QUIZ

- Discover your skill set and make the right choice career choice.

### STEP 2 EXPLORE CAREERS

- Search careers suited to your skill set and watch a bunch of industry videos showing you a day in the life of that job.

### STEP 3 JOB FIT TEST

- This will help you determine how suited you are to your chosen career and the next steps you need to take to get there.

### STEP 4 360° VIRTUAL WORKPLACE

- See what a day in the life of your dream job is really like. Click here to explore your job in a virtual space!

### STEP 5 CREATE YOUR RESUME

- Get the latest tips to build a fresh resume and what to write for the perfect cover letter.

### STEP 6 APPLY FOR THE GIG

- Not only do we provide you with top interview tips, but you can directly apply for a heap of roles posted to our jobs board daily (no experience needed!).

### STEP 7 STAY IN THE KNOW

- Keep up to speed with all the latest news, events, competitions and more.

### STEP 8 TELL US YOUR JOURNEY

- Keen to share your thoughts? Whatever it might be, we want to hear about it! Submit your Job Diaries story to Skillsroad and get your voice heard.

## DOES STARTING AN APPRENTICESHIP OR TRAINEESHIP SOUND INTERESTING?

Learning while doing and experiencing is just as important as academic learning.

There are more than 500 occupations that offer apprenticeships, ranging from Certificate II to Advanced Diploma levels. These include traditional trades and a multitude of emerging occupations in most industries you didn't think existed!

Australian Apprenticeships are available to anyone of working age and do not require any entry qualifications. An Australian Apprenticeship is available to school-leavers, those re-entering the workforce or those wishing to change careers.

Find all the information to get started [here](#).



## GET HANDS ON YOUR FUTURE

Learn about the potential of your skills and the various pathways you can follow to achieve your dreams. That way, you will not only set yourself up for a successful career, but a fulfilling one, too.

Your future starts with an idea... To create, to save, to tend, to heal, to make, to design, to produce, to empower, to excite, to solve, to protect, to flourish, to DO. Now take that idea, and start exploring, thinking and actioning.

