S.O.T. SYSTEMS OF TIMOR

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Rua de Ai Meti Laran, Comoro, Dom Aleixo, Dili

JOB PROFILE

Carpenter & joiner

Karpinteiru

Construction & building trades · ISCO-08 7115

Carpenters and joiners cut, shape and put together wood to build and repair roofs, floors, doors, windows, stairs and the wooden moulds for concrete. Employers in Timor-Leste report a skills gap for carpenters.

TRAIN IN TIMOR	**Certificate I–IV** INDMO national certificates
COURSE LENGTH	**To confirm** No published source yet
IN TIMOR	**Skills gap** Workers below the level employers need, skills strategy 2022
ABROAD	**No official programme yet** Australia: any job with a job offer
PAY IN TIMOR	**US$276 / month** Average for all craft & trades workers in Timor-Leste, not this job alone (Labour Force Survey 2021)

WHAT YOU DO

Read and plan: Read drawings and take measurements; Choose the right wood and materials; Mark out where to cut.

Cut and shape: Saw, plane, drill and chisel wood; Use hand tools and power tools safely; Make strong joints that fit well.

Build and fit: Build roof frames, floors and walls; Fit doors, windows, stairs and cupboards; Build wooden moulds for concrete (formwork).

Repair and work as a team: Repair or replace damaged woodwork; Work with masons, electricians and plumbers on site; Keep tools sharp and the workplace tidy.

Based on the ILO description of ISCO-08 unit group 7115, Carpenters and joiners.

WHERE YOU WORK

Building sites (Roofs, floors and formwork); Workshops (Making doors, windows and frames); Homes and businesses (Repairs and fitting); Your own workshop (Taking orders from customers).

Carpentry is noisy and dusty, and you lift heavy timber. On building sites you may work on roofs and scaffolding.

Builders in Timor-Leste also hire carpenters from abroad: 72 foreign workers held carpentry work permits in 2017. That is work a trained Timorese carpenter can take.

IS IT FOR ME?

You are good at: Measuring carefully, Using tools, Reading simple drawings, Solving practical problems, Basic maths.

You like: Working with wood, Making things with your hands, Seeing the result of your work, Building and fixing.

Careful work matters: one wrong cut can waste good timber.

TRAIN FOR IT IN TIMOR-LESTE

- **Certificate I in Carpentry** · INDMO national certificate
- **Certificate II in Carpentry** · INDMO national certificate
- **Certificate III in Carpentry** · INDMO national certificate
- **Certificate III in Carpentry Joinery** · INDMO national certificate
- **Certificate IV in Carpentry** · INDMO national certificate
- **CNFP Becora, Dili** · Teaches carpentry. Certificate level to confirm.
- **Don Bosco Technical School, Fatumaca (Baucau)** · Three-year carpentry course, reported in 2016. Current courses to confirm.

Course length and fees: to confirm with INDMO and each centre. The directory never shows a number without a source.

WHERE IT LEADS

- **Construction labourer** · Entry job; Certificate I in General Construction
- **Carpenter & joiner** · Certificate II, then III in Carpentry
- **Lead carpenter** · Certificate IV in Carpentry
- **Your own carpentry workshop** · Startups of Timor helps you start one

WORK ABROAD, SAFELY

- **Australia: Pacific Engagement Visa** · There is no official programme abroad for this job yet. Australia's Pacific Engagement Visa allows any occupation if you have a job offer.

Never pay a fixer. Join only through SEFOPE, the Timor-Leste government office for work abroad. No one can sell you a place, and a real overseas job never asks you for a recruitment fee.

SOURCES

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3. SEJT, Labour Market Outlook No. 7, Feb 2018 (foreign work permits 2017) https://www.laohamutuk.org/DVD/2018/LMOFeb2018en.pdf
4. Tatoli, CNFP Becora (ex-SENAI) courses, 31 Jan 2022 https://en.tatoli.tl/2022/01/31/each-year-senae-becora-graduates-300-trainees-since-2002-to-2021/14/
5. Mission Newswire (Salesian Missions), Don Bosco Technical School in Fatumaca: three-year courses in carpentry, mechanics and electronics, 20 Oct 2016 https://missionnewswire.org/east-timor-don-bosco-technical-school-provides-students-hands-on-broadcasting-education-and-experience/
6. Pacific Engagement Visa: any occupation, job offer needed (employer fact sheet 2025) https://pev.gov.au/sites/default/files/2025-02/PEV%20for%20Employers%20Fact%20Sheet_2025.pdf
7. Labour Force Survey 2021, Table 29: average monthly wage of employees by occupation group https://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/%40asia/%40ro-bangkok/%40ilo-jakarta/documents/publication/wcms_863064.pdf

From the Servisu jobs directory. Every figure has a source; "to confirm" means none yet. http://servisu.oftimor.com/jobs-directory/carpenter-joiner/?lang=en