

## Lewis De Guara – Apprentice Carpenter

NSW Apprenticeships Ambassador Program – Apprentice and Trainee Career Profiles



Lewis De Guara checks the measurements of a set of recently constructed steps.

**Current role:** 4th Year Apprentice Carpenter with Brookfield Multiplex.

**Age:** I'm 21.

**What got you this role?**

My desire to work for the best company and my great initiative.

**Formal qualifications:**

Currently studying Certificate IV in Building Structures.  
Certificate III in Carpentry.  
Completion of HSC with St Joseph's College.

**What did you want to do when you grew up?**

Growing up I wanted to be a power ranger, but as I matured, I realised I had a passion for woodwork and carpentry.

**Best school time memory?**

I enjoyed all my time at St Josephs, as I was a boarder and it was a great experience. But I particularly liked lunch times.

**Work/life so far?**

I still live with my family, which are a great support and I don't have any major worries on my shoulders yet as I believe you need a work/ life balance and I really enjoy my time at work and away. I am quite happy working for Brookfield Multiplex and I wish to continue my career here and work my way to the top.

**About this trade**

- Carpenters construct, erect, install, finish and repair wooden and metal structures and fixtures on residential and commercial buildings.
- The role suits people who are physically fit, enjoy practical, outdoor work and are able to work well in teams.
- With further training and experience, a carpenter can become a building supervisor, building or construction manager, building inspector, technical teacher, estimator, building contract administrator or purchasing officer.

**A snapshot of this apprenticeship**

- At Brookfield Multiplex successful candidates receive on-the-job training and the opportunity to obtain a Certificate III in Carpentry
- Apprentices are rotated through a variety of locations and roles and are provided with safety gear and tools to work with.
- The apprenticeship usually takes four years to complete but may be completed earlier when the apprentice has completed the qualification.

***This profile is an initiative of the NSW Apprenticeships Ambassador Program 2014.***

***For information on Apprenticeships and Traineeships visit***

[www.training.nsw.gov.au](http://www.training.nsw.gov.au)

### **Career bumps so far?**

Just missing out on the marks I wanted to get and study to become a physiotherapist and then becoming a builder instead.

### **Who are your career development supporters?**

I'd have to say mostly my father and my grandpa, but I also look for support from my colleagues and TAFE mentors.

### **Current job description:**

4th Year apprentice acting as a Foreman at Dural "Bathroom Blitz".

### **Strangest thing you've had to do?**

Strange things happen most days especially at Bathroom Blitz. I couldn't pin point just one.

### **Your strengths?**

Thinking proactively, determination, leadership and encouragement skills.

### **Your weaknesses?**

I don't believe I have any weaknesses but I have areas I need to improve on. But I will learn things with time and experience.

### **The best part of your work?**

The great guys I get to work with every day, the team spirit within the company and the privilege to keep learning.

### **The worst part of your work?**

The 3 hour commute to and from work driving on the M4 in Sydney.

### **Your greatest mentor/inspiration?**

In terms of my career I really look up to my seniors at work and my family. But away from work I am inspired by people like Craig Alexander, an international ironman from Sydney, who displays great discipline and endurance.

### **What job do you most crave?**

CEO or Brookfield Multiplex site manager

### **Your work motto?**

'Just while you are standing there doing nothing, fix this'.

### **Where will you be in 15 years' time?**

Either running Brookfield Multiplex or the owner and entrepreneur of a successful business/company and millionaire.

### **Learn more about this apprenticeship**

Start by searching the web by clicking at:

- State Training Services
- Brookfield Multiplex
- Construction & Property Services Skills Council
- myfuture
- Job Outlook

### **Steps to starting an apprenticeship**

To make informed career decisions you'll need to know:

- The range of apprenticeships and traineeships available.
- Where to search for an apprenticeship or traineeship vacancy.
- How you start and successfully complete an apprenticeship or traineeship.
- Who can help and the types of assistance available to you.

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### **Apprenticeships and traineeships:**

- Are a great way to start a career or change career direction.
- Consist of structured off the job training which compliments the on the job training in the workplace.
- One of the best ways to get job training and qualifications.
- Are highly regarded by business and industry.
- Are nationally recognised.
- Can be full time or part time or school based.
- Are regulated by State Governments to ensure fairness and compliance with all state laws.
- Are competency based so they are completed when the apprentice or trainee has achieved the relevant qualification and competencies to industry standards.