

Sawmill Worker Job Description

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Load and unload lumber and timber from trucks, forklifts, and conveyors
- Conduct inspection of logs to identify defects and indicate areas for removal
- Sort and arrange logs and timber according to sizes and wood type to allow for easy identification
- Roll logs from deck onto roller tables to transport to sawing machines for cutting
- Guide log position on carriage to ensure cutting is precise and according to standards
- Utilize trimmers to straighten the edges of cut lumber to achieve even ends
- Adjust and sharpen the teeth and cutting parts of the sawing machine to improve operational efficiency
- Operate and maintain donkey engines to ensure efficient movement of cut logs to accumulation point
- Season lumber to prevent wood shrinkage and warping
- Utilize specialized equipment such as kiln in effectively drying seasoned lumber
- Use barkers to strip barks from wood logs to allow for easy cutting and processing
- Measure and indicate cutting lines on timber
- Maintain accurate record of job operations as well as up-to-date inventory
- Use pike poles in moving logs from ponds to sawmill decks
- Ensure proper disposal of waste materials on completion of job operations
- Oversee the treatment of timber to ensure application of suitable wood preservatives.

Sawmill Worker Requirements – Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities

- Education and Training: To become a sawmill worker, you require at least a high school diploma and years of training under an experienced sawmill worker or a technician. Enrolling in a woodworking college will help increase your job skills and prospects
- Physical Strength: Sawmill workers are able to lift heavy equipment and logs during a cutting and shaping process
- Stamina: They are able to withstand long hours of work while standing or moving
- Physical Dexterity: Sawmill workers maintain good eye to hand coordination when operating sawing equipment to make precise cuts.