

AMI DAY 2-CAREERS

DIRECTIONS:

1. Read the article on the back of this paper titled “Architect Vs. Draftsman: What’s the Difference?”
2. On your own paper, write your name, class period, and AMI #1 in the top right corner of your paper. (OR type in a new document: your name, class period, and AMI #1 on the first line)
3. Key or write 2 Paragraphs (at least 3 sentences each paragraph) and answer the Writing Prompt below.
4. Use correct grammar and punctuation.
5. All sentences must be complete sentences.

Writing Prompt

Compare and contrast the architect and the draftsman using information given in the article.

1. Give at least one comparison and one contrast.
2. What is the author’s purpose in writing this article?

Compare means to see what is alike about the two careers. Contrast means to see what is different about the two careers.

Architect Vs. Draftsman: What's the Difference?

Architects and draftsman can both work on construction projects and may work together. However, the two positions have different responsibilities, and they require different skills and educational backgrounds. Read on to find out how these jobs vary in duties, education and salary.

What's the Difference Between an Architect and a Draftsman?

Architects and draftsman may perform similar work at times, but drafting is a broader field that can be applied to many specialties. Architects tend to have more direct involvement in construction projects and require more college training.

Architects and Draftsmen: A Comparison of Job Duties

What Do Architects Do?

Architects design and build structures for others to live in, work, eat, shop and worship. These structures can include homes, schools, office buildings, rooms and complexes that are for indoor, outdoor, public or private use. In addition to being in charge of the overall aesthetics, architects must also make sure these structures are safe, functional and economical. Additionally, architects are often involved in every phase of construction projects, from initial planning to project completion.

Architects use computer-aided design and drafting (CADD) tools and software as well as building information modeling (BIM) to create construction drawings. They must be sure that these drawings follow ordinances such as zoning laws, building codes and fire regulations. Architects must also make sure these structures are handicapped-accessible.

What Do Draftsmen Do?

Draftsmen, also called drafters, perform some of the same tasks as architects and often work with architects. Draftsmen, like architects, prepare CADD drawings. However, drafting can be applied to many other areas besides construction and architecture. Drafting can be used to create drawings of circuitry or mechanical designs. A draftsman's CADD drawings include technical details and specifications such as materials, dimensions and procedures. In addition to using CADD, draftsmen also use calculators, tables and technical handbooks.

The type of work a draftsman does depends on his or her area of expertise. For example, architectural drafters produce drawings for new construction projects. They may specialize in residential or commercial buildings or in the type of material used, such as steel, timber or reinforced concrete. Civil drafters prepare drawings for use in major civil engineering projects, such as highway and bridge construction, sewage systems and flood-control projects. Common drafting fields include aeronautics, electronics and architecture.

Education Requirements for Architects and Draftsmen

Architects

Architects need at least a bachelor's degree in architecture. Most earn a 5-year bachelor's degree. This degree is designed for students with no prior architectural training. Course topics in an architecture program might include CADD, architectural history, construction methods, math and technology. Architecture students are also expected to gain work experience via internships.

Additionally, all architects in the U.S. must be licensed. Eligibility for licensure includes earning a professional degree in architecture, completing an internship and passing the Architect Registration Examination. Licenses must also be periodically renewed by completing some form of continuing education, such as classes, conferences and workshops.

Draftsmen

Employers prefer draftsmen with college training. Because training varies considerably among these schools, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics recommends that students check with employers to see which type of training they prefer prior to enrolling at any school (www.bls.gov). Certificates, diplomas or degrees in drafting can be earned from technical institutes and community colleges. In some cases, drafting training can also be earned in military service.

Salary Information for Architects and Draftsmen

Architects tend to earn considerably more than draftsmen. In May 2009, architects earned a mean annual salary of \$78,880, reported the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Architects in the highest percentile earned as much as \$122,640.

Draftsmen salaries vary depending on specialty. According to BLS data, architectural drafters earned an average annual wage of \$47,710 in May 2009. By contrast, electrical drafters earned an average of \$54,800 in the same period.