

## CAD Skills FAQ

### What is CAD?

CAD is an acronym which stands for Computer Aided Drafting. Sometimes CADD is used meaning Computer Aided Drafting and Design

### What are Site Plans?

Drawings are just another form of communication. Drawings convey information, meaning, and understanding just like words to.

Site Plans are a form of Civil Drafting

Civil Drafters produce blueprints for construction that occurs outside of buildings

Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors are two professions who employ Civil Drafters

Civil Drafters are what the industry refers to as CAD Technicians because they use CAD software to draw.

The course "**How to Draw a Residential Site Plan using AutoCAD**" is intended to be the first step in developing a career as a CAD Tech who does Civil Drafting

Link	<a href="#">How to Draw a Residential Site Plan Using AutoCAD &amp;#8211; CAD College</a>
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### Who can benefit from taking this course?

Beginners who have never used CAD software.

Civil CAD Tech

Survey CAD Tech

Architectural CAD Tech

Contractors

Applying for Permits  
Estimating Construction Costs  
Documenting As-Builts

Excavation Contractors

Utility Contractors

Building Contractors

Real Estate Professionals

Real Estate Salespeople

Property Managers

Home Owners

### **How can I use site plan drafting skills?**

Advance your career

Civil Engineering and Land Surveying organizations need CAD Techs

Positions are available in private companies and local, state, and federal governments

Employers can promote non-CAD users to a higher skilled position as a CAD Tech.

CAD Techs Annual Salary is typically \$60000 or more

Most Building Permit applications require a site plan

Site plans are useful when selling a home

Site plans are used to plan home improvement projects

### **What jobs require site plan drafting skills?**

Contractors

Building Contractors

Estimators

Permit Applications

Utility Contractors

Landscape Contractors

## Survey CAD Techs

Link	<a href="#">Surveying and Mapping Technicians : Occupational Outlook Handbook: : U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics</a>
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# OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK

## Surveying and Mapping Technicians

Summary What They Do Work Environment How to Become One Pay Job

### Summary

Quick Facts: Surveying and Mapping Technicians	
2023 Median Pay ?	\$48,940 per year \$23.53 per hour
Typical Entry-Level Education ?	High school diploma or equivalent
Work Experience in a Related Occupation ?	None
On-the-job Training ?	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Number of Jobs, 2023 ?	57,400
Job Outlook, 2023-33 ?	6% (Faster than average)
Employment Change, 2023-33 ?	3,200

## Civil Engineering CAD Techs

Link	<a href="#">Civil Engineering Technicians : Occupational Outlook Handbook: : U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics</a>
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# OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK

## Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians

Summary | What They Do | Work Environment | How to Become One | Pay | Job

### Summary

Quick Facts: Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians	
2023 Median Pay ?	\$60,700 per year \$29.18 per hour
Typical Entry-Level Education ?	Associate's degree
Work Experience in a Related Occupation ?	None
On-the-job Training ?	None
Number of Jobs, 2023 ?	66,000
Job Outlook, 2023-33 ?	2% (Slower than average)
Employment Change, 2023-33 ?	1,200

# Architectural and Civil Drafters

Link [Architectural and Civil Drafters](#)



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Bureau of Labor Statistics > Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics

## Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics

OEWS Home OEWS Publications ▾ OEWS Data ▾

### Occupational Employment and Wages, May 2023

#### 17-3011 Architectural and Civil Drafters

Prepare detailed drawings of architectural and structural features of buildings or drawings highways, bridges, and public works. Use knowledge of building materials, engineering pra

[National estimates for Architectural and Civil Drafters](#)

[Industry profile for Architectural and Civil Drafters](#)

[Geographic profile for Architectural and Civil Drafters](#)

#### National estimates for Architectural and Civil Drafters:

Employment estimate and mean wage estimates for Architectural and Civil Drafters:

Employment (1)	Employment RSE (3)	Mean hourly wage	Mean annual wage (2)	Wage RSE (3)
111,070	2.3 %	\$ 31.25	\$ 65,000	0.6 %

Percentile wage estimates for Architectural and Civil Drafters:

Percentile	10%	25%	50% (Median)	75%	90%
Hourly Wage	\$ 19.09	\$ 23.88	\$ 29.72	\$ 37.03	\$ 45.47
Annual Wage (2)	\$ 39,720	\$ 49,660	\$ 61,820	\$ 77,020	\$ 94,580

States with the highest employment level in Architectural and Civil Drafters:

State	Employment (1)	Employment per thousand jobs	Location quotient (9)	Hourly mean wage	Annual mean wage (2)
<a href="#">Texas</a>	14,500	1.07	1.46	\$ 28.33	\$ 58,920
<a href="#">California</a>	13,350	0.74	1.02	\$ 35.77	\$ 74,390
<a href="#">Florida</a>	8,460	0.88	1.21	\$ 29.01	\$ 60,330
<a href="#">New York</a>	7,250	0.77	1.05	\$ 33.90	\$ 70,510
<a href="#">Pennsylvania</a>	5,160	0.87	1.19	\$ 31.20	\$ 64,900

Real Estate Marketers

### **What is the demand for site plan drafting skills?**

The Consumer Affairs reported in 2024 there were 126,750 new residential buildings started

Link [How Many Houses Are Built Each Year in the U.S.? 2025 | ConsumerAffairs®](#)

The National Association of Realtors reported 4.5M existing homes were sold in 2024

Link [Existing-Home Sales Housing Snapshot](#)

A site plan is almost always required with the sale of the existing home or the permit application for a new home