

Sawmill Head Sawyer



Photo courtesy of Pukall Lumber Co.



High School Courses

- Woodworking
- Engines/Mechanics
- Welding
- Forestry



Education/Training

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Optional trade or vocational schooling in manufacturing or related field



Responsibilities

- Monitor equipment and gauges
- Choose logs to cut
- Decide the best way to cut logs for lumber
- Saw logs into lumber
- Load and unload logs and lumber
- Meet quotas
- Follow all safety rules



Skills

- Change and sharpen saw blades
- Complete minor repairs on equipment and machinery
- Saw lumber
- Pay attention to detail
- Communicate effectively



Abilities/Personality

- Strong, can lift and carry 50 pounds and push and pull 100 pounds
- Able to move hands repeatedly
- Adaptable
- Hardworking



Work Environment

Sawyers spend their entire workday in the mill. Their duties require them to work with their hands running machines and be on their feet all day long. Sawyers need to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) to prevent exposure to sawdust, other particulates and fumes.

Job Description

Sawyers are manufacturers that turn trees into lumber. Depending on the size of the company the sawyer may be running the saw all day, or the sawyer may be choosing logs to saw, running the saw, and loading lumber and logs. Sawyers need to know the basics of lumber and log quality, understand how the equipment in the mill works to turn logs into lumber, and know how to maintain mill equipment.

Salary Range

