Employees in the Shipwright trade are involved in the construction and repair of all types of vessels from small pleasure craft and work boats to large commercial and naval ships. These vessels may be constructed from wood, fibreglass, aluminium or steel.

They set up marine vessel structures, maintain marine vessel surfaces, repair marine vessel surfaces and structures, perform fitout procedures and install marine systems.

Shipwrights may also:
- interpret technical drawings
- mark off/out structural fabrications and shapes
- apply fibre-reinforced materials
- construct and assemble marine vessel timber components
- perform marine slipping operations.

If you are seeking recognition in the Shipwright trade, you must provide evidence demonstrating the nature and duration of your employment, such as:
- log books or job cards illustrating the nature of trade work you have performed
- work-related references from employers and qualified supervisors outlining the duration of employment and detailing the nature of work you have performed, procedures applied and tools and equipment used which are consistent with the Shipwright trade. References must be signed, dated and on your employer’s letterhead.
- formal training records, evidence of relevant training completed to date
- any other evidence that demonstrates that you are competent or trained to work as a Shipwright.