

Meet Holli Rodziewicz

An Apprentice Carpenter at Roberts Co, currently working on the redevelopment of The Children's Hospital at Westmead.



In support of the NSW Government's Hard Work Knows No Gender awareness campaign, we sat down with Holli to find out why she is pursuing a career in construction and what she enjoys about working on site.

What are your qualifications, Holli?

I'm currently doing a Certificate III in Carpentry.

What's the best part of your job?

The people make the job, I'm surrounded by good people.

What's the most challenging part of your job?

Sometimes things can get pretty heavy on site, but I am always willing to give it a go.

What sparked your interest in a construction career?

I didn't want to sit at a desk.

What skills and attributes do you need for your role?

Physical strength and positivity. If you write yourself off before you try something, you'll never get there.

What's next careerwise? And, in the longer term?

Cranes! I want to be operating those one day.

Do you have a workplace mentor or champion?

Our team leader is the best at supporting and teaching us the best way to do things.

For those interested in doing work experience in the construction industry – what would you recommend?

Get out there! Listen and learn.

Your advice for those considering a career in construction?

Just do it. Don't worry about what anyone else says.

Do you have a favourite project you've worked on?

This is my first project but I would love to work on a school.

What are the three things good construction employers do?

1. They make it feel like a big family on site and create an environment where you don't feel afraid.
2. They ensure the sheds are female friendly.
3. They make sure there are enough female toilets across all the floors.

How important is diversity to the experiences on site?

It's very important. It not only helps women – it helps men behave better too.

What's changing to make construction an industry-of-choice for women?

More women are feeling comfortable enough to give construction a go and aren't scared to try it. I see it becoming less male dominated over time, and more diverse in every way.