

Where Do I Go With



Did you realize that your algebra homework may be giving you a jump start on your future? Solving for x comes in handy all the time. Algebra can help you function in the world, whether you're doing your taxes, applying for a mortgage, or measuring ingredients to bake a cake. There are innumerable jobs that require the type of logical thinking and reasoning that algebra promotes. If you get excited about quadratic equations and love a good square root, then crunch the numbers on these career opportunities.

DEGREE KEY

- H = high school diploma
- A = associate degree
- B = bachelor's degree
- M = master's degree
- D = doctoral degree

b = BUSINESS

FINANCIAL MANAGER Dealing with any amount of money calls for math, especially when you are paid to find the best possible ways to spend and save money for a company. Financial managers work in such fields as insurance, banking, and government. Financial managers set budgets, make financial plans, and determine how a person, company, or organization can best use its money. **B, M**

ACTUARY This career is all about risk! An actuary usually works with an insurance company to calculate odds and determine financial risks. Actuaries estimate the costs and gains of investments and make price decisions based on their predictions. **B, M**



ABSOLUTE VALUE = ART & ARCHITECTURE

ARCHITECT Designing new buildings isn't just about drawing lines on a page. Architects use algebra constantly to calculate things such as space and volume. Knowing such measurements is vital to understanding the potential for any new building project. **B, M**



COMPUTER GRAPHIC ARTIST The bizarre creatures and realistic cityscapes you see on the big screen come to life thanks to a little algebraic thinking from computer graphic artists, who need math to convert the real-life models they use into the computer images we see at the right dimensions. **B**

MIKE MORAN (6)

th Algebra?

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY VARIABLE

CIVIL ENGINEER Math is the heart of engineering. Becoming an engineer requires an advanced understanding of math, and algebra is the backbone of what most engineers spend their time planning and designing. Algebra also comes in handy when creating structures or transportation systems. **B**

COMPUTER SCIENTISTS program software and develop new technology. They use algebraic thinking to determine the possible outcomes of different combinations of data. Algorithms are key when it comes to encrypting data and transmitting information. And those formulas equate to really cool stuff—like virtual reality systems and robots! **B**

PHARMACISTS don't just dispense medicine; they often mix the compounds to create the prescriptions. That requires knowing the exact ratios needed for a drug to work. When patients use multiple prescriptions, a pharmacist needs to know what amount of each medicine is safe to use. **M**

CARTOGRAPHERS create the maps we all rely on, and the maps to be accurate. Maps can display anything from altitude and climate to population density. A cartographer's job involves using calculations, measurements, and dimensions to create accurate models. **A, B**

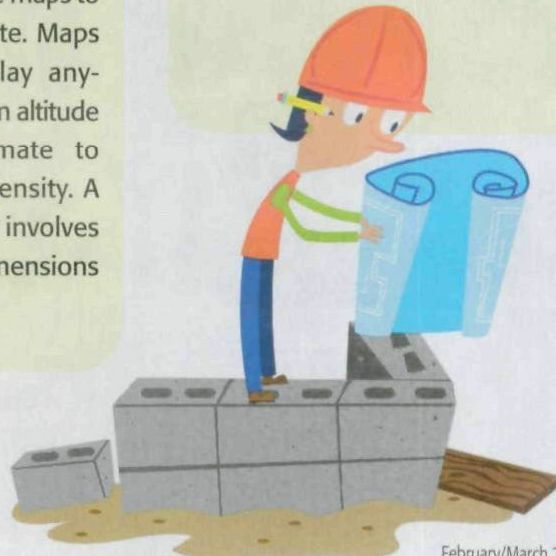


CONSTRUCTION QUOTIENT

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS use a basic knowledge of ratios and proportions on a regular basis to make sure that beams and other elements in a structure align absolutely perfectly. **H, A**

CARPENTERS measure wood and other materials and fit them into place when building. Both actions must be precisely accurate—making math an absolute necessity for the carpentry business. **H**

CONSTRUCTION INSPECTORS regularly check up on building sites to make sure construction adheres to building codes. They apply algebra when inspecting and reviewing a structure's plans to make sure the structure is safe and functional. **A**



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