

In the office



At the construction site



**Name (Age):**

Karel Korbíel (43)

**Family:**

Married, daughter (12); son (10)

**Job:**

Construction engineer<sup>1</sup>

**From / Nationality:**

Bohumín, Czech Republic

# Construction Engineer

**Karel, what do you do?**

I design<sup>2</sup> and draw plans for new houses and I renovate old houses. I'm a construction engineer.

**What's your working day like?**

I discuss projects with my colleagues. I also meet my clients and we speak about their projects. I spend a lot of time at different offices getting building permits<sup>3</sup>.

**Do you go to construction sites<sup>4</sup>, too?**

Sure! I meet the investors there, and I help to organise the building work.

**What are your working hours?**

I usually go to my office around 7am and finish at 5pm.

**What do you study to do this job?**

You need to study civil engineering<sup>5</sup> at university. Then you need to get some work experience and pass an exam<sup>6</sup> to become a construction engineer.

**What qualities do you need for this job?**

You need to be creative, have a good imagination<sup>7</sup>, and know a lot about construction technologies and materials. You also need to be communicative.

**What do you like about your job?**

I like working with clients and turning their ideas into<sup>8</sup> reality. It's great when clients are happy.

**What don't you like?**

I don't like the paperwork much.

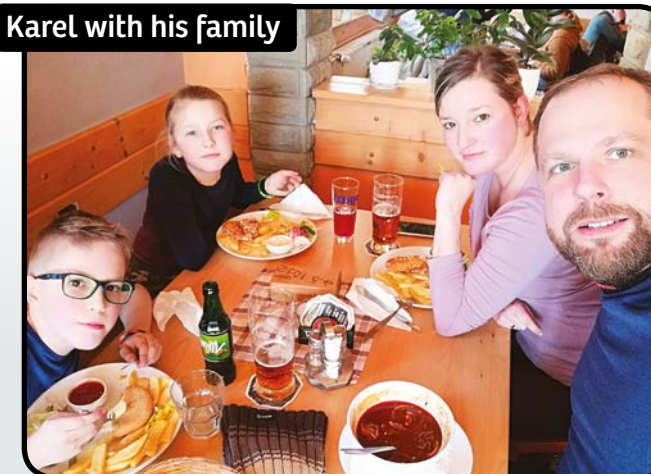
**What are your future plans?**

I would like to have a big team of colleagues who can help me to do bigger\* and more interesting\* projects.

**What do you do in your free time?**

I spend time with my family. In winter, we go skiing, in summer we go hiking or ride bikes together. We sometimes go running or swimming.

Karel with his family



**LANGUAGE NOTE**

\* big – bigger – the biggest  
interesting – more interesting – the most interesting

**VOCABULARY**

<sup>1</sup> construction engineer [kən'strʌkʃn ˌendʒɪ'nɪə] – stavební inženýr | <sup>2</sup> to design [dɪ'zaɪn] – navrhovat, projektovat | <sup>3</sup> permit [pə'mɪt] – povolení | <sup>4</sup> construction site [kən'strʌkʃn saɪt] – stavba (staveniště) | <sup>5</sup> civil engineering [ˈsɪvəl ˌendʒɪ'nɪərɪŋ] – stavebnictví, stavařina | <sup>6</sup> to pass an exam [pɑːs ən ɪg'zæm] – složit zkoušku | <sup>7</sup> imagination [ɪˌmædʒɪ'neɪʃn] – představivost | <sup>8</sup> to turn into [tɜːn 'ɪntə] – přeměnit (na)

**MATCH**

Match the words with the definitions.

**Vocabulary**

- 1. a construction engineer
- 2. civil engineering
- 3. a building
- 4. to turn into
- 5. to design

**Definition**

- a. to draw a plan of a new building
- b. a house or other construction with walls and a roof
- c. designing and building bridges, roads and houses
- d. a person who makes drawings of buildings
- e. to change

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