

# SUCCESS STORY

## Robyn Nelthorpe



Starting at Workshop Skills Academy on the ITC programme, Robyn progressed onto the multi-trade programme, then our new Skills Bootcamps in Bricklaying and Plastering courses. Here's her story...



## AT A GLANCE

### Challenges

- Struggles with depression
- Stuck in a rut
- The need to develop a new skillset to embark on a new career



This course has helped with my confidence.

**Robyn Nelthorpe**

Robyn was looking for a career change after working in the customer service industry for 16 years.

## CHALLENGES

Born and raised in South Africa, Robyn lived there till she was 27, when an opportunity arose to move to the UK with her job. She jumped at the chance and remained with the company for another 6 years. However, as she openly admits, she'd struggled with depression in her teens, and the role eventually got her to the point she was tired of with 'pleasing them'. Her depression had spiralled again, and she felt she had no choice but to walk away and look for a brand-new opportunity, although she was unsure where she was heading.

## OPPORTUNITIES

When Robyn discovered our Workshop Skills Academy Introduction to Construction (ITC) course, she felt this type of work and learning may help reduce her anxiety and depression, and bring about a brand-new career for her.

## SOLUTIONS

Robyn started on the ITC course despite feeling intimidated, having no previous experience of construction. Fast track those initial doubts, she enthused: "My fellow teammates have been fantastic. So supportive with the physical aspects, especially joinery. The tutors are great too. They teach you everything and then let you get on with it, with support there if needed."

**SUCCESS STORY CONTINUED...**

**RESULTS**

# Robyn Nelthorpe



Robyn breezed through the ITC course and moved on to the multi-trade programme at Rotherham Skills Academy, explaining that she really enjoying the bricklaying aspect of the course. She excelled in this too, so when she was informed that the Skills Academies would be running the new Skills Bootcamp in Constuction trade courses, she jumped at the opportunity to further develop her skill set.

Robyn went back to Workshop Skills Academy to undertake a 4-week Level 2 Skills Bootcamp in Bricklaying course, and loved it! She was then supposed to progress onto the Skills Bootcamp in Painting and Decorating programme, but was unable to attend after falling unwell. However, she's currently undertaking our Skills Bootcamp in Plastering course and is really enjoying the physical aspect of this programme.

## INSPIRATION

Robyn told us: "I want to understand as much about home improvement as possible, which is why I've been continuing my journey with the academies. When I finally leave here [she laughs] I want to get even more experience working as a site labourer, where I can be hands on doing lots of varied work. Eventually, I would love to go into home improvement on a self-employed basis. There has been so much scope for expanding my skill set at the Worksoop and Rotherham academies, and I've had so much fun learning. They have been behind me all the way [the tutors] and I'd recommend this type learning to anyone that's looking to begin a new career working with their hands, or on a construction site. It's changed my life and my career."

Another incredible learner! We think any construction company would be lucky to have Robyn on their books, and we wish her a wealth of success in all her work and personal endeavours.



I was anxious about being in a social environment, but it has reintroduced me to working around people and made me feel much more comfortable.

**Robyn Nelthorpe**