

General Construction Foreman

James O'Donnell

Professional summary

Experienced general construction foreman with over 11 years overseeing residential and commercial projects throughout the Midwest. Adept at coordinating large crews, maintaining compliance, and ensuring seamless communication between contractors, engineers, and city inspectors. Recognized for delivering complex builds under budget and on schedule without compromising safety.

Experience

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June 2018 - Now
Lakefront Builders Group / Chicago, IL

- Manage day-to-day operations across multi-million-dollar residential and retail development projects, coordinating with subcontractors, architects, and inspectors.
- Supervise teams ranging from 10 to 30 workers, ensuring site safety, quality standards, and labor productivity on complex builds.
- Implement streamlined inventory systems, reducing material delays by 25% across all active job sites.
- Facilitate weekly team briefings and trade meetings, improving on-site communication and reducing errors due to misinterpretation of specs.

Construction Foreman

May 2014 - May 2018
Northwest Structures, Inc. / Naperville, IL

- Oversaw framing and finishing operations for a variety of projects, including medical offices, custom homes, and multi-use buildings.
- Created efficient project schedules, coordinating between trades to avoid conflicts and downtime, resulting in an average 17% increase in build efficiency.
- Maintained detailed daily logs and quality checklists to ensure full compliance with OSHA and municipal codes.
- Trained new hires and apprentices, promoting cross-skill training that improved crew flexibility and site coverage.

Volunteer Work

Lead volunteer builder for Habitat for Humanity Chicago

- Managed 3 complete home builds with volunteer crews from 2019 to 2023.

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Education

Associate Degree in Construction Management

Joliet Junior College | Joliet, IL | 2012 – 2014

Certifications

- OSHA 30-Hour Construction Safety – Aug 2024
- First Aid & CPR – May 2023
- NCCER Core Curriculum – Dec 2012

Skills

Site supervision and crew leadership	
Multi-phase project management	
OSHA safety protocols	
Scheduling and budgeting	
Blueprint reading and implementation	
Vendor coordination	
Heavy equipment oversight	
Permit and code compliance	
Team development and mentoring	