

1. What is your name?

Denise Allen

2. What is your job/role/title?

Office Mngr for Roofing Co. /woodworker (on side as hobby)

3. How or why did you enter your industry?

I love storms, weather in general, nature fit was a roofing company. I get excited about storms and so do roofing companies. Woodworking started as my hobby because the managers at my work use to say that I could not compare myself to our employees because I can not do what they do.

4. What are the barriers/obstacles of being a woman in this industry?

Men stereotype women in construction related industries. Men tend to believe a woman can not know anything about construction. I have skilled tradesmen come into our office & will start talking to the men around me, excluding me from the conversation. Then when that man asks a question & all the men around me will directly at me to answer the question because I am the one who knows the answer, I love to see the look on the guy's face who excluded me from the conversation.

5. Why do you think there are so few females in the industry and what would you do to change that?

Women have to have confidence, first in themselves and second in knowing that men do not have all the industry answers either. They had to learn what they know too. Women are very capable of learning the same information and putting it to use. Females tend to let men lead the construction industry because they think they are not capable of doing everything that a man can. I can lift and carry materials, maybe not as much as but I do not give up and I am stronger than some of them. There isn't an everyday job that I can not do that 3/4th of the men in our company do everyday.

6. What does an average day in your work life look like?

I order materials for jobs, I make sure jobs are running properly (have permits, correct materials, following job guidelines, etc.), I hire new workers, I estimate prices for customers, job cost, & invoice jobs. I answer 20 to 50 questions a day related to jobs/customers per each manager & for the owner of our company. I track what jobs the workers are currently on. I run the entire office and then some.

7. What would you title your autobiography?

Where can I buy a clone??

8. What is your favorite hobby?

Wood working, making river tables & wood tables

9. What is your go to song at karaoke?

No singing for this tone deaf one

10. What is advice you would give your younger self?

Be yourself, love who you are and do what you love & OPEN YOUR OWN COMPANY!!!

11. What do you like most about your work?

I can dress casual

12. What is the best career advice you have ever been given?

The only person you have to prove what you are capable of doing is yourself. And you WILL even surprise yourself someday.

13. What was your first job?

Waitress