# What You Need to Know Before Becoming an Interior Designer - Arch2O.com**Job title: Interior Designer**

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| **Job title: Interior Designer**  | Interior designers plan and supervise the layout and decoration of the inside of buildings. |
| **Entry requirements:**  | **University**You could take a foundation degree, higher national diploma or degree in a relevant subject like:* interior design
* art and design
* interior architecture
* spatial design

You'll usually need:* 1 or 2 A levels, or equivalent, for a foundation degree or higher national diploma
* 2 to 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a degree

**College**You could take a college course to get started, for example:* Level 3 Diploma in Interior Design
* Level 3 Diploma in Art and Design
* A Level in Art and Design

You may need:* 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A\* to C), or equivalent, including English, maths and a creative subject

**Apprenticeship**You could do a furniture design technician advanced apprenticeship to get into interior design.To get onto an apprenticeship, you'll find it useful to have:* 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A\* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths, for an advanced apprenticeship

**Work**You could start as a design assistant with a company and take further training and qualifications on the job.**Further information**You can get more details about careers and training in design from the [British Institute of Interior Design](https://biid.org.uk/education-and-careers/definition-of-a-designer).You can get information on working in this and other creative careers from [Discover Creative Careers](https://discovercreative.careers/#/). |
| **Skills required:**  | You'll need:* design skills and knowledge
* to be thorough and pay attention to detail
* customer service skills
* the ability to come up with new ways of doing things
* the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
* knowledge of building and construction
* the ability to use your initiative
* the ability to work well with others
* to be able to use a computer and the main software packages confidently
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| **What you'll do:**  | Your day-to-day tasks may include:* meeting clients to discuss their requirements and ideas
* developing designs to suit clients' needs, their budget, and the type of building
* preparing initial sketches and mood boards for the client to approve
* advising on use of space, colour schemes, fabrics, fittings and furniture
* working out costs and preparing estimates
* creating detailed drawings from the initial sketches, usually on a computer
* finding suppliers of fittings, furniture, fabrics, and wall and floor coverings
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| **What you’ll earn:**  | Average salary (a year) - £18,000 Starter to £45,000 Experienced |
| **Working hours, patterns and environment:** | * You could work in an office, from home, in a creative studio or at a client's business.
* Typical hours (a week) 40 to 42 variable
* You could work evenings / weekends attending events or appointment
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| **Career path and progression:** | You could move into related work like theatre set design, visual merchandising, exhibition design or furniture design. |