

Interior designer

Interior designers plan and supervise the design and decoration of the inside of buildings.



Skills You'll need:

- practical skills
- excellent organisational and project-management skills
- drawing, computer-aided design (CAD) and model-making skills
- the ability to work out costs and keep to budgets
- business skills if self-employed

These university subjects are related to this career:

Graphic Design

Languages, Linguistics and Comparative literature

Interior and landscape design

Related career profiles

- Exhibition designer
- Architect
- Set designer
- Colour therapist
- Painter and decorator

Career path and progression

You could move into related work like theatre set design, visual merchandising or exhibition design.

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 for the client to approve
- advising on colour schemes, fabrics, fittings and furniture
- working out costs and preparing estimates
- creating detailed drawings from the initial sketches, usually on a computer
- finding fittings, furniture, fabrics, and wall and floor coverings
- You may also recommend or hire people to carry out work on site, and supervise their progress.

East Midlands growth: +9% from 2014 to 2024, creating 2,767 jobs

East Midlands median earnings: £26,747

UK Entry Requirements

You'll need a high level of design skill.

Completing a higher education course in an art or design-related subject will help. Related subjects include fine art, 3D design, spatial design and interior architecture.

You could also begin work as a design assistant and work your way up. To get work as a design assistant, you'll usually need a college course in interior design.

Paid or unpaid work experience can give you the chance to develop your portfolio (examples of your design work), make contacts and impress potential employers.

