Interior design operates between architecture and interior decoration. The interior designer must be competent to operate in both professions with an intimate knowledge of materials selection, construction methods and furnishings as well as technical skills and construction expertise. Interior designers make creative use of interior architecture and lighting. They research and analyze the needs and wants of a client, prepare and create design ideas and organize drawings and blueprints. By working with architects and contractors, interior designers supervise the execution of the design.

Possible Career Options

- Art Director
- Home and Office Designer
- Business Designer
- Furnishings Designer
- Civil Drafter
- Interior Designer/Decorator
- Contract Designer
- Interior Design Coordinator
- Designer
- Landscape Designer
- Design Consultant
- Freelance Designer
Possible Employers

- Interior Design Firms
- Architecture Firms
- Construction Companies
- Museums
- Design Consulting Companies
- Colleges and Universities
- Private and Public Companies
- Home and Office Furniture
- Property Developers
- Manufacturers
- Hotels
- Exhibition Companies
- Restaurants
- Decorating Companies
- Hospitality Chains
- Remodeling Firms
- Hospitals
- Retail Chains

Skills Required

- Interest in beauty, art, architecture and design
- Ability to understand people’s personalities
- Ability to communicate information and concepts verbally and visually
- Ability to make sound judgments and decisions
- Ability to organize, analyze and interpret information
- Ability to plan, direct and supervise activities
- Ability to successfully communicate with people from different backgrounds and cultures
- Ability to work well under pressure
- Ability to influence, direct and lead others
- Ability to creatively solve complex problems
- Proficiency in written and oral communications
- Ability to work independently or as part of a team
- Ability to perceive visual beauty and harmony
- Aptitude with colors and aesthetic details

Personal Attributes

- Analytical thinker
- Imaginative and artistic
- Creative
- Patient and resilient
- Self-confident
- Self-critical
- Ambitious
- Attentive
- Aesthetically aware
- Appreciation for logical processes
- Flexible and adaptable
- Achievement-oriented

Ways to Get Experience

- Doing an internship
- Becoming involved with design and decorating projects
- Volunteering or working in a furniture store
- Attending design or architecture-related lectures, workshops or conventions
- Joining a professional association
- Working part-time or volunteering in a school or university design or architectural department