

Many artistic jobs in the theatre industry are **Freelance** positions - this means they are not permanent contracts.

Therefore, while these careers are not the most stable in terms of income, they can be hugely varied and creatively rewarding.

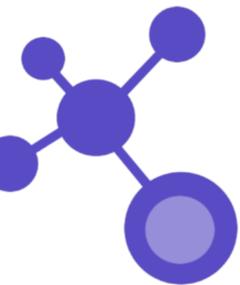
GETTING STARTED:

The biggest advantage is having enthusiasm for your subject. So **get involved!** If you can, join a local theatre group and volunteer to make props or help with the set. If you're a bit shy for that at first, work up to it by really **getting to know your subject** - see as many theatre shows as you can and make notes on why you liked or didn't like them. Develop your opinions on what works and what doesn't.

Start making random props, costumes or sketching scenery to **develop your own learning** - look for video tutorials on YouTube, practise the things you find hard. **Take photos** of anything you make/design and **keep notes** on how you did it - you might be able to use them in a portfolio later.

While a degree is not always necessary to get into this industry, it can help you to build up a relevant portfolio and, importantly, **introduce you to key contacts**.

CORE SKILLS TO DEVELOP:



Networking

This can be a tricky one if you are of a quieter nature, but it is very important in this industry. As most jobs are Freelance, having a consistent income will rely on the contacts you make and the reputation you build.

Self-motivation

Freelancers need to generate opportunities, adapt to new situations and take charge of their own learning. No one but you will push you into action each day.



Set Design

Designers • Builders
Scenic Artists

Props

Designers • Makers
Specialists

Costume

Designers • Makers
Make-Up • Dressers

Lighting

Designers
Technicians

*these are just a few types of theatre careers - but there are lots more, including directing, sound, make-up, special effects and puppet-making.



Fine Art

Art CAREERS

A hugely diverse industry, Fine Art encompasses the artists themselves through to the marketing, documenting, preserving, selling and displaying of art.

There are some permanent positions available in certain areas of this industry, such as conservation and curation, though they can be competitive. For artists and illustrators, their work is often **commissioned** for a specific project and is therefore a temporary/freelance arrangement.

GETTING STARTED:

If you are an artist, **build your portfolio** whenever you can. If you know what medium you like and want to stick to it - great! - but being an artist does not mean you have to lock yourself in to one thing. Try new techniques and materials, and always **keep an open mind**. You will always be evolving as an artist, so it is ok to diversify.

Taking a Foundation Diploma is a great way to try lots of different specialisms while figuring out your own style. It helps you to prepare for university and understand how to present your work effectively.

A degree is advantageous if you would like to progress towards conservation, curation, teaching or academia, as it will give you the **specialist training** you need.

CORE SKILLS TO DEVELOP:



Time Management

This is hugely important in this industry - you need to be able to plan your time effectively in order to meet deadlines and organise your projects, as well as managing other people's schedules if you work in a team. Practise good habits in your day to day life, being punctual and conscious of others.

Communication

You need to be able to communicate your ideas, your intentions, your progress and achievements to a range of people and audiences. Know how to use different methods correctly and understand why your tone should change depending on who you are addressing.

Artist

Painting • Sculpture
Digital • Ceramics

Illustration

Books • Technical
Architecture

Conservation

Specialism
Restoration

Curation

Galleries • Museums
Online

*these are just a few types of fine art careers - but there are lots more... including technicians, teachers, buyers, auctioneers, journalists and historians...



Film

Art CAREERS

Most positions in the film industry are **Freelance** positions, moving from project to project, and while these careers may not be the most reliable in terms of income, they are hugely varied and creatively rewarding for those with passion for the field.

Differing projects require different roles, so the people you work with will be constantly rotating as you move between jobs - leading to an ever evolving experience and many opportunities for networking.

GETTING STARTED:

Your work is what will make you stand out. Any projects you can **create in your own time** will help you to learn and also show your initiative. If you have a computer to use, you can teach yourself editing using free software (such as Da Vinci Resolve or Shotcut) and tutorials online. Any recent camera you have (including the one on your phone) has the potential to film - so switch it on and try it!

While film school training can be useful (both for access to high quality equipment and for making contacts), if you have the ability to **generate your own development** it is possible to enter this industry without formal training. Build your portfolio, research contacts, and look for internships, paid or unpaid, to get your foot in the door. Be prepared to start at the bottom...this is a career that will grow.

CORE SKILLS TO DEVELOP:



Resilience

This industry is competitive - you need to realise this early on and decide to believe in what you have to offer. You have unique abilities, but you need to be able to showcase them well and, if you get knocked back, pick yourself up and adapt.

Team work

The only reason most films or shows get made is because a wide range of people are willing to come together to create them. You will need to work well with others - treat them with respect and do your own part with integrity and enthusiasm, so they will remember you for their next project.

Production
Directing • Concepts
Storyboarding

Videography
Visual Effects
Editing

Animation
Stop Motion • 2D

Design
Costume • Props
Set • Lighting

*these are just a few types of film careers - but there are so many more... including carpenters, dressers, graphic artists, scenic artists and engineers...



Spatial

Art CAREERS

The field of Spatial Design is one which affects us all. It is the homes we live in, the spaces we work in and the places we love to visit. Our surroundings need to work for us practically but, ideally, they can also be beautiful.

This industry **evolves with the times** - the career of Urban Design, for example, is barely 25 years old and was created out of necessity in balancing the artistic with the practical. Tastes and needs change and spatial careers change with them.

GETTING STARTED:

Get researching! Find places which inspire you and think about why they do. **Take notice** of your everyday surroundings - as you travel to school, what places do you see? Is the route beautiful or practical - or both or neither? Why do you think that?

Formal training is important in careers such as architecture, so build your portfolio of ideas to help you get into degree courses, but many interior craft specialisms - for example, furniture design - are often achieved from apprenticeships or personal practise.

CORE SKILLS TO DEVELOP:

Negotiation



Working with spaces means stepping into areas that other people may have strong opinions about. These careers are focussed on forward thinking and future planning, but many people resist change to their environment - you will need to be able to negotiate through their fears in order to reconcile any conflict.

Awareness

You will need to understand the people you are both designing for, and the people who those designs will affect. Keep up to date with political and cultural shifts - understanding the economic issues of how society lives will help you to see situations from multiple angles. This is creativity on a big scale - in looking at the big picture, don't forget to consider the details.

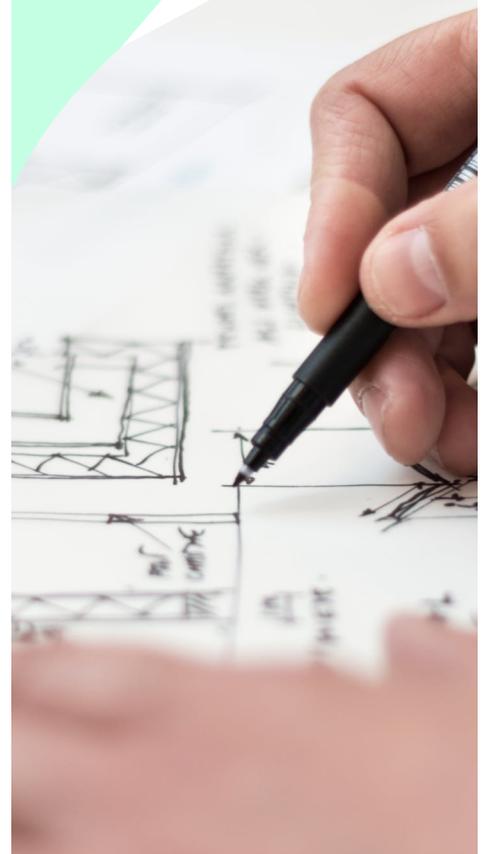
Architecture
Concept Art
Modelmaking

Landscape
Design • Gardening

Interiors
Design
Craft Specialism

Planning
Urban Design

*these are just a few types of spatial careers - but it is a very varied field encompassing town planning, decorators, industrial design and more...



Health

Art CAREERS

Art is a very therapeutic and healing endeavour, with benefits to how we use our bodies, how we think and how we interact with others. Promoting and encouraging **creativity for our mental health** can be a hugely worthwhile and rewarding career.

While jobs requiring medical training may often be permanent contracts, artists working within hospitals or healthcare facilities providing workshops will usually be commissioned to do so on a case by case basis.

GETTING STARTED:

Volunteering is a good way to see the inner workings of healthcare environments and to improve how you interact with patients and other workers.

Medical training at degree level is important if you want to eventually practise psychological art therapy, and also if you wish to become a medical illustrator. However, many artists can cross over from other fields to work with charities or organisations which promote art and health - to deliver workshops to patients or to create artwork to improve the hospital environment.

CORE SKILLS TO DEVELOP:

Listening



Any healthcare career can benefit from your understanding - and to truly understand and empathise you need to listen. Being a good listener does not mean just letting someone talk at you - it means you really taking in what they say, asking questions rather than assuming and putting yourself in that other person's shoes.

Organisation

Whether it is to plan your time efficiently as an artist delivering a commission installation, or to keep detailed notes as a medical therapist treating patients, organised working is important to master. The ability to respect other people's time and communicate effectively reflects an organised mind - people will then put trust in you. Nurturing this trust, especially if from vulnerable patients, will help you to build networks and allow you to really help people.

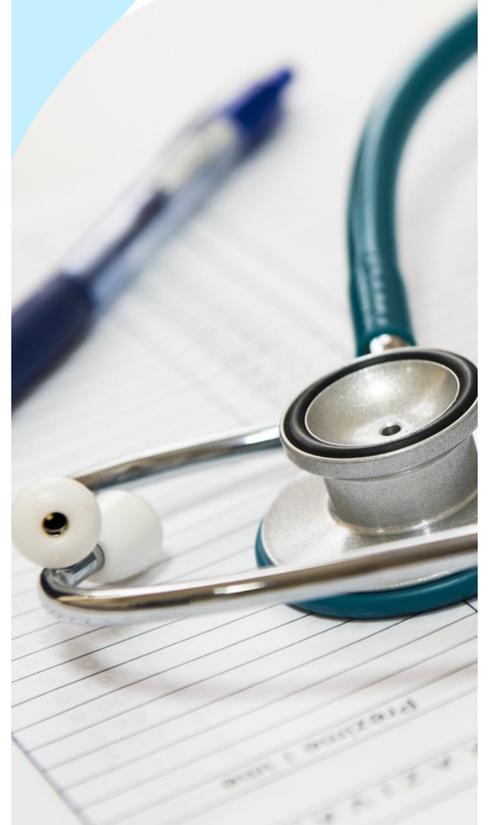
Psychology
Art Therapy

Environment
Mural Artists,
Installations

Publication
Medical Illustration
Medical Photography

Caregiving
Patient Support
Art Workshops

"healthcare careers can be creative in lots of different ways, crossing into bio-sciences and engineering. Having art in your skills broadens your choices..."



Investigation

Art CAREERS

Art is a broad discipline which can **complement and enhance** many career fields. Have you ever considered how your artistic skillset could assist in a criminal investigation? Or how your knowledge of art practise could be of use in law consultation?

Choosing a career does not mean limiting yourself. You will doubtless have more than one interest as you go through life. If you think you have to choose between fields which seem to conflict, **step back and widen your view** - you might be surprised at the opportunities you can create.

GETTING STARTED:

First off - research! You don't know to ask about what you don't know exists. Google two career ideas you think don't go together and see what comes up!

Training can be important in these fields. Degree courses can offer you specialist information to get you started - but if you cannot find a specific degree for your interest, look for ones which can give you complementary knowledge.

Gaining experience is key. If you want to work in forensics, for example, you need to gain experience of working on crime scenes. Look out for work experience placements or internships within your fields of interest.

CORE SKILLS TO DEVELOP:



Critical Thinking

Say what? Ok, it sounds fancy but you are developing critical thinking whenever you write an essay or debate a topic. The thing to master is to think about an issue in an **objective** way - then apply that thinking to **analyse and evaluate** the issue.

People Skills

These crossover careers all involve talking to a diverse range of people - from the general public to senior officials. You will need to interact with these differing people appropriately and with professionalism.

Forensics
Composite Artists
Facial Reconstruction

Police
Fraud • Theft

Courtroom
Courtroom Artist
Art Lawyer

Research
Insurance
Consultancy

*these are just a few types of art careers which cross over with law and science. Industries are not exclusive - combine interests to find your passion!



Fashion

Art CAREERS

Fashion is a highly competitive industry, where those with a diverse skillset and dedication can thrive. Many fashion careers are **Freelance** positions - this means they are not permanent contracts and work is often commissioned or on a temporary basis.

Get comfortable with networking, as making contacts is important for securing future jobs, and cultivate your reputation positively so people remember you.

GETTING STARTED:

Want to design or illustrate? Start building your portfolio! Practice your ideas in sketchbooks, or keep your loose sketches safe in a folder - you may find them useful later on. **Get to know your inspirations and your competitors** - find designers you like online and think about why, specifically, you respond to their work. How does that reflect in your own designs?

Want to be a fashion journalist, or photographer? **Start a blog** and write about shows you've seen or costumes that have inspired you. Dress friends up, take their photos and **create a digital gallery** for them (this could be as simple as starting a specific Instagram account for them).

A degree can be helpful in broadening your knowledge base and introducing you to useful contacts.

CORE SKILLS TO DEVELOP:



Problem Solving

All creative and team endeavours run into seeming dead-ends sometimes. If a dress doesn't turn up on time for a photo-shoot, a team-mate falls ill, or the designer changes the whole design 24 hours before the show and expects you to sew it all fresh...you'll need to think creatively to find solutions fast!

Pitching

You will often need to pitch your ideas to the people you want to, or already, work with. This can seem intimidating so practise talking about your ideas as much as you can - to the mirror or to friends. The more you vocalise what you need to say, the more you'll remember it during your pitch.

Design
Clothes • Textiles

Styling
Retail • Personal

Illustration
Design • Advertising

Innovation
Technologist
Developer

Journalism
Photographer
Writer

*these are just a few types of fashion careers - but there are lots more... including fashion buyers, teachers, tailors, dressmakers and archivists...



Graphics

Art CAREERS

Graphics is a broad industry, and those with an up-to-date skillset can branch into other areas such as Interior Design, Television and Theatre. Many jobs are **Freelance** opportunities, but there are also in-house positions if you go into corporate or government branding.

An awareness of current trends and technologies will help you to generate good, fresh ideas.

GETTING STARTED:

Your portfolio will be your calling card. If you have designed your own website, or your own packaging, make sure you have screenshots printed and photograph any mood/vision boards you worked from.

Get to know what you like and why. Why do certain magazines interest you? Question why a teen magazine looks so different from a gardening magazine - notice layouts, colours, fonts...the details are important in graphics.

A degree can be helpful in building your portfolio and introducing you to useful contacts, but also look out for any internships or work experience placements. **Building a good reputation** for high-quality work, effective people-management and efficiency will be key.

CORE SKILLS TO DEVELOP:



Up-skilling

Graphic work relies on technology and technology is always changing. Make sure to be aware of the newest innovations in computer software and printing capabilities, learn any new programs you can and make your skillset as useful and flexible as possible.

Patience

You will probably spend a lot of your time working on a project, in front of the computer for long stretches. Due to the details being so important in graphics work, you will need to be patient with yourself and others - you may be asked to adjust your work multiple times, which could get frustrating, but they could also make all the difference.

Design

Web • Packaging
Layout • Surface

Branding

Advertising
Business

Gaming

Design
Programming

Print

Magazines • Books
Technology

*these are just a few types of graphics careers - but there are lots more... including print technicians, teachers, merchandising and curating.



People

Art CAREERS

Of course, people are in every industry...but they are not always the focus, as they are here. Whether you want to **inspire** a student to discover their own capabilities, or champion a client to prospective bookers, careers centred around human interaction can be challenging and rewarding.

Positions range from fixed contracts within schools and organisations to being self-employed.

GETTING STARTED:

Think about what interests you - do you enjoy sharing knowledge with others?; do you like analysing other people's ideas?; do you want to enable other's creativity?

If you want to get into retail or art dealing, look out for **work experience** or entry positions in shops, wholesalers, galleries or auction houses. Keep up to date with art trends and research the art that interests you.

If you are interested in academia, training will be your first thought. Gaining teaching **qualifications** is important, as is experiencing class environments. Think about who you would like to teach - young people or adults - as their needs and goals are very different.

CORE SKILLS TO DEVELOP:

Adaptability

Being a good people-person is more about adapting to different situations effectively than simply being outwardly confident. You don't need to be an extrovert to be good with people, but you do need to understand that everyone is unique and so require different approaches.

Problem-solving

When you find yourself with a problem, explore new ways to think about it. Practise being calm in the face of chaos - getting stressed when things go wrong will only escalate the issue. Solutions are sometimes tricky to find, but there are always compromises and negotiations which can be made.

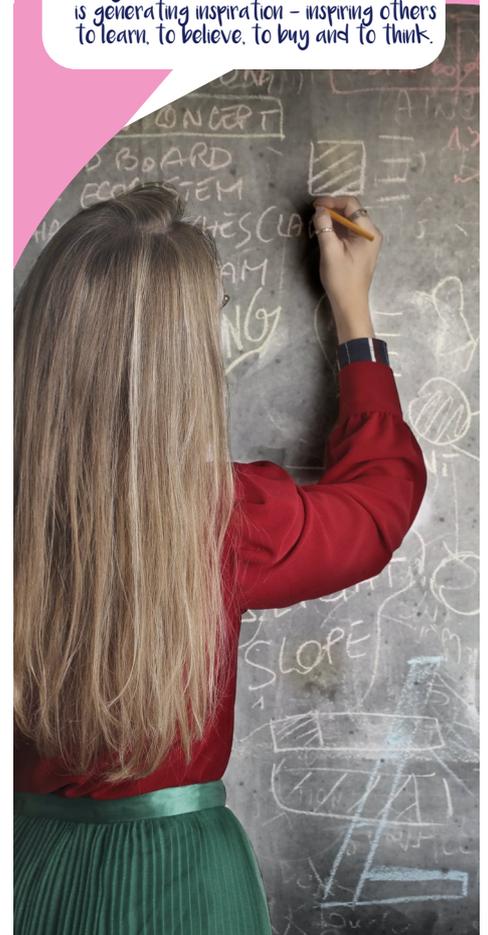
Teaching
Schools • University
Adult Education

Promotion
Publicity • Agents

Retail
Art Supplies
Art Dealing

Analytical
Historian • Critic
Administration

"working with people in art can take many forms, but the common theme is generating inspiration - inspiring others to learn, to believe, to buy and to think."



Craft

Art CAREERS

Being a craftsperson is about being skilled - often in one core specialism - and generating your own work or working on commissions. Honing your craft means you will always be learning, mainly through the practise of doing and by sharing your knowledge with others. **The range and intention of crafts is broad** - from heritage crafts which focus on restoration and the preservation of historic methods, to home and accessory design which can be more commercial.

GETTING STARTED:

Your portfolio is most important here, as is your training. Most craft specialists have benefitted from apprenticeships or specialist programs at some point in their career. First **get grounded in your basic artistic skillset** - drawing skills, sculpting techniques - for these will be your springboard. Be open to trying any short courses or tutorials in varied crafts as you can - you never know what skills you might pick up.

Keep adding to your portfolio and look out for placements with craftspeople you admire - locally or further afield. Maybe you could find a crafting mentor - someone in the field you are interested in, who you can ask questions to and gather advice from. **Research your field thoroughly** and keep your eyes and ears open for opportunity.

CORE SKILLS TO DEVELOP:

Self-motivation



You may likely become your own boss in these fields so the only person who is going to cheer you on and get things done is you. Generating interest in your work and gaining commissions takes dedication, confidence and quality workmanship. Your reputation will travel if you put the effort in to make it a good one.

Time-Management

Craft work is often precise - it can take hours to complete a project to a quality standard. You will have others asking you to meet deadlines, which can be stressful when the project is an intricate one. Know your working methods and manage your time - and others expectations - realistically.

Accessories
Jewellery • Bags
Millinery

Specialisms
Metalwork • Print
Heritage Crafts

Homeware
Ceramics • Sculpture
Surface Design

Display
Floristry • Critic
Picture Framing

*there are so many craft specialisms to explore - the ability to make things can take you into varied careers. Find your passion and delve into it.



Heritage

Art CAREERS

Our **cultural heritage is important to protect** - for our enjoyment and our education. Ever wandered around a historic house or explored a castle ruin? Or spent an afternoon poking around a museum? These places help us to learn about our history, but also inspire us by showcasing the amazing art and architecture humanity has managed to create.

Heritage careers can be competitive and many are part of local government or charitable organisations which have to stay resilient amid budget cuts, but those with a passion for the work can find great satisfaction in this rewarding field.

GETTING STARTED:

Go visit heritage sites. It's a simple thing, but just by visiting as many sites as you can will help to build your knowledge of how protected heritage works. Look out for **Behind-The-Scenes tours**, which allow you to view private collections or closed rooms alongside a conservator or archivist. They are great opportunities to ask questions.

Volunteering is a big thing in this industry - find a museum or historic site near you and see if you can volunteer for them. You will gain skills in talking to the public, sharing your knowledge and learn about heritage's inner workings.

CORE SKILLS TO DEVELOP:

Flexibility



Being adaptable to change will help you to thrive within heritage. You will meet many different people, be tasked with varying challenges and you will need to learn how to prioritise your workload in order to meet the deadlines you are set.

Curiosity

In this field you will always need to be learning. Your skills can always be expanded and enhanced. As the culture around us shifts, heritage needs to react accordingly - keep up to date with heritage issues and seek out courses or seminars to help you keep developing professionally.

Funding
Policy • Legacies
Bids • Membership

Curation
Management
Display

Conservation
Preservation
Heritage Crafts

Education
Outreach • Events
Publications

*these are just a few types of heritage careers - but there are lots more... including landscape gardeners, archivists, merchandisers and project managers...

