

Exploring Fashion Careers

Name: _____ Period: _____

Investigate a fashion career, keying a response on the computer for each step described here.

Step 1: Identify Career Goals

Careers impact the way people live. Do you want to live where you do now, or are you willing to move? Would you work nights and weekends? Do you want to travel? Which of these sounds appealing: a formal or casual workplace; a relaxed or hectic pace; part-time or full-time work? Find out how the careers you're considering would meet your expectations.

Step 2: Evaluate Personal Qualities and Skills

You'll get more enjoyment and success from a career that fits your qualities and skills. In the fashion industry, some careers take creativity and originality while others take an interest in research, science, manufacturing, or business. In all fields, dependability, flexibility, and a positive attitude are valued. Do you get along with others? Do you like to write, sew, sketch, take photos, or use a computer? Compare your qualities and skills with those needed in fashion careers.

Step 3: Research Career Paths

The direction a career takes as you change positions is called a career path. By gaining experience and taking on more responsibility, you can advance to higher positions. That's called moving up on the career ladder. If you apply experience in one field to an new field, your career path takes a different direction. Find out what education, training, and experience are needed for paths in the careers you're exploring.

Step 4: Explore Job Possibilities

The more you know about a career, the easier it is to evaluate it. You could work part-time as a sales associate to learn about retailing. You might sample a career by taking an entry-level position. You can talk to people who work in certain careers. What opportunities are there in your area to learn about careers that interest you?