

INTERIOR DESIGN



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INTERIOR DESIGNERS are concerned with the functional, productive and enjoyable use of living and working space. When designing the interior of a building, they must take in consideration the people who will use the space; the function of the room, building or space; the design or expansion possibilities of the building; the location of the building; the prevailing climate of the area and the available budget.

Interior designers must have a thorough knowledge of architectural design and technical drawing, as well as construction methods and building materials. Before the work begins, interior designers must make detailed drawings and sketches of the designs. These are presented to clients together with architectural plans and evaluations, sample boards, models, specifications, information on the material and finishes needed as well as cost analysis.

The nature of the work also necessitates visits to shops and factories as the designer needs to be well informed about developments and new products on the market.

RECOMMENDED SCHOOL SUBJECTS

Art and Mathematics.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A Senior Certificate or qualification of equivalent standard.

SELECTION REQUIREMENTS

Interior designers should be artistic and creative. Design and aesthetic awareness, as well as practical skills to communicate design concepts and solutions in a professional manner is important.

TRAINING

UNIVERSITY

A four-year BA(Fine Arts) degree, offered at most universities.

UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Programmes offered:

NDip: Interior Design

BTech: Interior Design

MTech: Interior Design

PRIVATE COLLEGES

For a diploma course you will find many colleges of design or schools of interior design to choose from.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Employment for interior designers may be found in interior design companies or studios, architectural practices, property developers, retail chains and groups, shopfitting companies, office furniture manufacturers, and hotels. Interior designers, with the necessary experience can act as consultants or do freelance work. They can also start their own interior design companies.