

I want to be a . . . Fashion Designer

Initial Career Steps:

- Read fashion magazines such as Vogue or Elle and check out online fashion shows to get a feel for current fashion trends.
- Decide what type of clothing you would like to design and observe how it is being worn today. Examine commercial patterns and try creating your own to get some practice with pattern construction. Get a sketch pad and drawing pencils to visualize your ideas as they come to you.
- Research and study the history of fashion. If you are enrolled in a fashion design program, you will be required to learn how garments were made in the past. Even if you are doing independent research, this knowledge may provide you with many more creative ideas and directions for your designs.
- It is useful to work your designs onto a mannequin or model. You will need a good sewing machine or at least have access to one. This will give you a better understanding of what different fabrics look like on the body, how they will drape the figure, etc.
- Create a portfolio of your designs. You will need one to show to potential clients and/or the admissions panel of schools that have programs that interest you. Be sure to include your preliminary drawings as well as photographs of your final designs on models or mannequins.

Local Resources:



--Austin School of Fashion Design:
<http://www.asfdesigns.com/>

-- Fashion Industry News:
<http://fashionista.com/>

--Austin Fashion Association:
<http://austinfashionassociation.com/>