

WHAT IS A COSTUME DESIGNER?

A Costume Designer is the person responsible for designing the costumes for a production, making sure they match the time period, style and Director's vision for the piece, as well as being practical for the Performer.

What are the main responsibilities of a Costume Designer?

- Reading the full script, marking and making notes on areas that will affect costume
- Research the time period and setting of the play
- Researching fashion in certain time periods and places
- Design the costume for each character
- Liaise with the Director on the overall vision of the play

What qualifications do I need to be a Costume Designer?

While you do not need a degree for this role, here are some useful subjects and courses that could help you get a head start in the industry:

- Costume Design
- Fine Art
- Art and Design
- Fashion
- Dressmaking
- Textiles

What skills do I need to be a Costume Designer?

These are the desirable skills for the right candidate to have to be a Costume Designer:

- Organizational skills
- An eye for detail
- Ability⁷ to work in a fast-paced environment
- Competent in sewing
- Ability⁷ to work alone as well as with others
- Ability⁷ to communicate and present your ideas

What does a career in costume design look like?

You may start as a Wardrobe Assistant and move into more senior roles such as Wardrobe Master/Mistress and then move into costume design. Some people have gone from set design areas into costume design roles.

COSTUME DESIGN PROJECT

Name: _____

Show Title/Theme: _____

Characters Name & Age: _____

Time Period: _____ Time of Day: _____

Scene/Act Description: _____

Season: _____

Character's Family Description: _____

Character's Personality: _____

Description of other characters in the scene: _____

Explain how the costume expresses the following:

The Mood and Spirit of the Character (how do the clothes/accessories you chose show the character's mood)?

The Historical Period of the Play (how do the clothes/accessories tell us what time period he/she is living in)?

What is going on in the world at this point that could impact the appearance of a character in a play/musical?

The Locale (place) of the Play (how do the clothes/accessories tell us where he/she is)?

