

Fashion Buying and Management

Your Careers Adviser

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Skills developed in college

You've developed a range of skills through your education, work experience and personal interests and achievements.

Understanding what skills you have to offer and like to use can help you understand what you want in a career, as well as providing key information for job or further study applications.

In terms of securing a job, academic qualifications alone will not guarantee success. Evidence-based skills sections on your CV can demonstrate the broad range of qualities you have to offer employers.

[Opposite are some of the main skills you may have developed while in college:](#)

Communication skills, both verbal and written

Expressing ideas effectively and conveying information appropriately and accurately. Influencing others by expressing self effectively in a group and in one to one situations. Showing a range of verbal and nonverbal signals that the information being received is understood.

Teamwork/working with others

Working effectively and confidently within a group to achieve a common goal or task. Including understanding your role within the team, and listening and supporting other team members.

Problem-solving ability

Identifying, prioritising and solving problems, individually or in groups; possessing the ability to ask the right questions, sort out the many facets of a problem, and contribute ideas as well as answers regarding the problem.

Time-management skills/ability to meet deadlines

Managing several tasks at once; being able to set priorities and to allocate time efficiently in order to meet deadlines.

Planning and organising

Establishing a course of action for self and/or others to accomplish a specific goal. Planning proper assignments of personnel and appropriate allocation of resources.

Leadership skills

Motivating and taking responsibility to lead other people, in order to achieve set goals and objectives.

Initiative & self-management

Identifying opportunities and being proactive in putting forward ideas and potential solutions. Self-disciplined and self-motivated, in the pursuit of studies and professional practice.

Ability to make quick decisions/work under pressure

Making decisions and taking action. Maintaining performance under pressure and/or opposition.

[You may also have developed a wide range of technical/specific course related skills](#)

Types of employers/industry sectors

Some of the main types of employers/industry sectors in which Fashion Buying & Management graduates work include:

- Fashion retailers
- Airports
- Department stores
- On-line stores
- Multiple high street chain stores
- Boutiques
- Internet shopping providers
- Stylists
- Wholesale suppliers (multi sectors)
- Distribution centres
- Manufacturers
- Warehouses
- Mail order companies
- Supermarkets
- Newspapers
- Celebrities
- Magazines
- Catalogues
- TV stations – shopping channels
- Media/PR agencies
- Fashion TV/Radio – fashion slots
- Designers
- Fashion agents
- Theatre/Film/TV
- Advertising Agencies
- Music Production companies.
- Event Co-ordinators
- Photographers
- Trend forecasters
- Publishers

For sector information see:

www.gradireland.com

www.careersportal.ie

www.prospects.ac.uk

www.targetjobs.co.uk

Career options with your course

Some of main occupations and job profiles secured by Fashion Buying & Management graduates include:

- Fashion Buyer
- Fashion Buying Administrator
- Fashion Stylist
- Fashion Predictor
- Fashion Journalist
- Fashion Marketing Executive
- Fashion Merchandising
- Fashion Promoter
- Fashion PR Specialist
- Fashion Sales Rep
- Fashion Editor
- Fashion Co-ordinator
- Showroom Representative
- Buyers Clerk
- Trend Forecaster
- Fabric Sourcing
- Fashion Photographer
- Sales and Distribution Manager
- Retail Merchandiser
- Retail Manager
- Sales promotion Account Executive
- Sales Executive
- Production Manager
- Industrial Buyer
- Visual Merchandiser
- Personal Shopper
- Retail operations manager
- Regional manager
- Area manager
- Store manager
- Logistics and Distribution Manager
- Account manager
- Garment Technologist
- Supply chain manager
- Supplier
- Fashion Distributor

For occupational information see

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www.targetjobs.co.uk

Employers who have recruited in your area

Companies who have recruited Fashion Buying & Management graduates:

- Dunnes Stores
- Primark (Ireland/UK)
- Arnotts
- Brown Thomas
- Smyth's Toys
- Heatons
- Fashion House
- Styletex
- Harvey Norman
- Lifestyle Sports
- Top Shop
- H&M
- Ted Baker
- Debenhams
- Pandora

Job Hunting

It is important that you access both the advertised and hidden jobs market and use any and every means available to you to job hunt effectively.

Advertised Jobs

Most University and IT Careers Services have jobs listings on their websites:

www.tudublin.ie/jobscene

Graduate programmes and immediate vacancies

www.prospects.ac.uk & www.targetjobs.co.uk

Graduate jobs UK

www.gradireland.com

Immediate jobs/Summer/Graduate programmes

www.mondotimes.com

Local and national press

www.publicjobs.ie

www.localgovernmentjobs.ie

Public service

www.irishjobs.ie/agencies

Complete list of recruitment agencies/online recruitment sites

Company Websites - Immediate vacancies and Internships

www.tudublin.ie/careers

www.indeed.ie

Internships/Work placement/Work Experience- Fashion Internships – fashion.ie, enternships.com

Recruitment Agencies/On-line recruitment sites, e.g. www.irishjobs.ie/agencies – complete list of agencies, e.g. permanentpeople.com, retailchoice.com (UK), ragtradejobs.com, inretail.ie, inretail.co.uk, excelrecruitment.com, fx2recruitment.com, teamworx.ie, fashionweb.co.uk, excelrecruitment.com

UK Recruitment Agencies

- Christian Bassett www.christianbassett.com recruits into retail management, buying and merchandising, allocation, operations, design, PR & Marketing, field-based roles, human resources and visual merchandising opportunities for luxury and leading contemporary designer brands,
- DrapersJobs.com www.drapersjobs.com/careers Fashion jobs, careers advice, news and profiles of people working in all areas of the fashion industry
- Four Seasons www.fsrl.co.uk specialise in recruiting for Fashion and Retail jobs from Graduates upwards.
- Profiles Creative www.profilescreative.com/fashion-retail-jobs fashion, retail, marketing, PR and design roles
- Fashion Personnel www.fashionpersonnel.co.uk Site includes fashion news, advice and a blog.

Other

- Careers fairs – Gradireland Fair – Autumn and Summer Fair, plus many others. National Retail Graduate Fair (UK) - www.retailgraduatefair.co.uk
- Notice boards/Student email account/Lecturers
- Company Presentations
- Specialist Magazines - eg: Checkout, Shelf-life, Monocle, etc

Voluntary Sector/Charities

www.activelink.ie

Voluntary Sector/Charity/NGO vacancies in voluntary sector

www.volunteeringireland.com

www.dochas.ie

Association of non-governmental development organisations

www.comhlamh.org

Volunteering opportunities

www.wheel.ie/directory

Directory of voluntary and community organisations

Job sites UK

- Fashion United www.fashionunited.co.uk Fashion jobs, the latest fashion news and apparel business network for the UK fashion industry including internships and traineeships
- Fashion Workie www.fashionworkie.com Free portal for finding Jobs, Internships, Work Placements etc. in a wide range of roles within the Fashion & Beauty industry.
- www.inretail.co.uk/graduate Graduate jobs in retail
- <http://www.savethestudent.org/student-jobs/graduate-scheme-deadlines-20102011.html> - 250 graduate programmes in UK covering a variety of disciplines

SAMPLE OF GRADUATE RECRUITMENT SCHEMES/OPPORTUNITIES – UK

- Morrisons - www.iwantafreshstart.com
- Tesco - www.tesco-graduates.com
- Aldi - www.aldirecruitment.co.uk
- Sainsburys – www2.sainsburys.co.uk/graduates/index.asp?from=http://www2.sainsburys.co.uk/aboutus/recruitment/careers_new.htm
- Waitrose - www.jlpjobs.com/graduateSchemes/waitrose/index.php
- John Lewis - www.jlpjobs.com/graduateSchemes/index.php
- Marks & Spencer - <http://corporate.marksandspencer.com/mscareers/opportunities/graduates>
- ASDA - www.asda.jobs/graduates/index.html
- Somerfield - www.somerfieldgraduates.co.uk/
- Iceland - <http://jobs.iceland.co.uk/index.php>
- Booths - www.booths-supermarkets.co.uk/recruitment.htm
- Budgens - www.joinbudgens.co.uk/
- Londis - www.joinlondis.co.uk/
- SPAR - www.spar.co.uk/retailers/recruitment/
- Harrods www.harrodscareers.com/future-talent Graduate programme, internships and placements.
- Fortnum & Mason - www.fortnumandmason.com/careers-fortnums.aspx
- Debenhams - www.debenhams-jobs.com/deb_rec/
- Co-op - www.co-operative.jobs/graduates/default.aspx
- Netto - www.netto.co.uk/internet/nettog/menu/main.nsf
- Boots - www.bootsjobs.com/graduates/
- Bhs - www.bhs.co.uk/mall/departmentpage.cfm/bhstore/217974/1/1
- House of Fraser - www.houseofcareers.co.uk/CurrentOpportunities.aspx
- River Island www.riverislandcareers.com offers a wide range of roles in stores and Head Office, including year-in-industry placements.
- Waterstones - www.waterstones.com/waterstonesweb/pages/careers/1009/
- Arcadia - www.arcadiagroup.co.uk/careers/opportunities/graduates/programmes/grad_progs.html
- Argos - <https://secure.argoscareers.com/index.html>
- Homebase - www.homebasecareers.co.uk/
- B&Q - www.jobs.diy.com/jobs/apply/apply.html
- Next - <http://careers.next.co.uk/index.aspx?link=catwalk>
- Zara - www.inditexjobs.com/en/brands/zara
- Mango - www.mango.com/oi/index.html
- GAP - www.gapinc.com/public/Careers/careers.shtml
- Uniqlo - www.uniqlo.com/uk/employment/
- Tkmmax – www.tkmaxx.com, www.tjxeurope.com/careers
- Adidas <https://careers.adidas-group.com>
- ASOS careers and internships <https://asoscareers.asos.com>
- boohoo <https://careers.boohoo.com/grads-interns> online fashion retailer
- Debenhams <http://debenhams-careers.com>
- Fenwick Graduate Careers www.fenwick.co.uk/about/careers/graduate-careers
- H&M Careers https://career.hm.com/content/hmcareer/en_gb.html
- Inditex Careers: brands include Zara, Pull and Bear and Bershka www.inditexcareers.com/portalweb/en/web/joinfashion/home
- Matchesfashion.com www.matchesfashion.com/careers 400 established and emerging designers from Saint Laurent, Balenciaga, Chloé and Isabel Marant to Gucci, Dolce & Gabbana, Stella McCartney and Max Mara.
- New Look Graduate Jobs www.newlookjobs.me.uk/new-look-graduate-jobs
- Next Retail Graduate Scheme www.graduate-jobs.com/scheme/next
- Nike <http://jobs.nike.com> Corporate and retail careers and internships
- Primark www.primark.com/en/careers/come-join-us
- Schuh www.schuh.co.uk/careers
- Superdry <http://careers.superdry.com>
- Ted Baker www.tedbaker.com/uk/careers jobs in stores and at “Tedquarters”, in the UK and internationally

Job pages (international) – indeed.ie. Monster.com, jobisjob, Linked-in, e.g. fashion jobs in New York - <http://www.linkedin.com/job/q-fashion-l-new-york-city-jobs>, Fashion Jobs in Ireland - <http://ie.fashionjobs.com/>

Unadvertised Jobs

Networking

- Job Shadow/Informational Interviewing/work experience
- Networking – who is in your network?
- Professional Bodies, e.g. (RGData, Retail Ireland, Institute of Designers of Ireland (idi-design.ie), Association of Suppliers to British Clothing Industry (asbci.co.uk), National Retail Federation US – members, events, CV posting, vacancies, training, etc
- Social networking sites (facebook, twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Fashion Blogs, discussion boards) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ocp1MNpSkWs> (How to use LinkedIn) - Set up a profile, link to others, search for companies, employees who have linked-in profiles, advertised jobs, related discussion groups)
- Attend events, e.g. Dublin Fashion Week, Kildare Village Careers Day, local fashion shows, Off the Rails, trade shows (e.g. RDS, Showcase(Dublin), Pure (London), Maison et Objet and Pret a Porter (Paris)), NCAD shows, Fashion Institute of Technology (shows)
- BusinessandLeadership.com (events)
- Get in touch with guest speakers
- Thesis / College projects/Placement/Site visits/guest speakers
- TU Dublin Societies, e.g. Fashion Society, PR/PA Society, Events Society, Photography Society
- First Destination Reports
- Join Alumni Association/Linked-in TU Dublin Alumni group
- Facebook – PG Fashion Buying and Management alumni

Contact companies directly

- Speculative applications + cold calling. Think about your offering
- Contact organisation with ideas (ways to reduce costs, make them more money, speed up R+D, Your Unique Selling Point)
- Utilise directories – Kompas.com, IDA, Marketing Services Directory, professional bodies, golden pages

Entrepreneurship

- Freelancing/Self-employment – Hothouse, TU Dublin, Aungier Street
- Start-up companies – www.startupdublin.com, dublinstartupjobs.com
- FDI and indigenous – www.makeitireland.com, www.itshappeninghere.ie
- <https://angel.co/> - start up jobs worldwide

Track companies

- Check out Labour Market trends, ilo.org (Intl Labour Organisation, www.careersportal.ie, IDA, IBEC (Retail/Financial Services), www.tudublin.ie/careers (labour market news/Latest job announcements)
- Search newspaper business pages on-line to get success stories on businesses as they are growing – TU Dublin Careers website (labour market news)
- Industry award recipients, e.g. FBD Retail Excellence Awards, Best Workplaces in Ireland, Top employers Retail (2012-13) – source gradireland.com
- Best Workplaces in Ireland (download on gradireland.com), Top employers in retail in Ireland, Top retail employers in UK
- Follow target companies on facebook, linked-in, twitter
- Think of small companies not just big brands

Other proactive ideas

- Contact fashion editors with ideas / articles. Keep trying different publications
- Offer to cover events if travelling, e.g. Milan fashion week, fashion shows.
- TV / Radio/local newspapers : fashion (guest contributor)
- Enter competitions / scholarships
- Consider alternative/related roles
- Build up fashion experience – contact other TU Dublin students, e.g. drama, media, photography + other Colleges (fashion-related programmes). Opportunities in Theatre, TV, Film, Magazines
- Volunteer at fashion related events
- Think of small companies/brands not just big names

UK opportunities/resources:

- <http://www.theappointment.co.uk/> - careers magazine for retail, fashion
- <http://www.fashionweb.co.uk>
- <http://www.retail-week.com/> - retail news, jobs
- <http://www.inretail.co.uk/pages/content.asp> - recruitment site
- <http://www.theretaildirectory.co.uk/> - retail resource
- www.fashionjobscentral.com – fashion jobs
- www.fsrl.co.uk – Four seasons recruitment – fashion and retail jobs
- www.retailchoice.com (worldwide)
- www.ragtradejobs.com (worldwide)
- <http://www.henryfoxrecruitment.com/> - specialists in retail
- <http://www.talismanretail.co.uk/> - fashion – international specialisation
- www.substanceorstyle.com/new-fashion-graduate-level-jobs
- www.arcadiagroup.co.uk
- www.matalan.jobs – industrial placements, retail, buying
- www.marksandspencer.com/gradcareers
- www.Gradireland.com – Immediate jobs / Summer /Grad programmes: e.g. Retail Grad Programmes –M+S, Burberry, H&M, Arcadia Group, LIDL, Aldi, Penneys, etc.

For more information on how to go about finding a job and job-hunting sites, [See www.tudublin.ie/careers](http://www.tudublin.ie/careers)

Interviews

For more information on how to perform in interviews, [See www.tudublin.ie/careers](http://www.tudublin.ie/careers)

CVs/Cover letters and applications

For information on how to put together a great CV/Cover Letter or Application, [See www.tudublin.ie/careers](http://www.tudublin.ie/careers)

Useful links (e.g. Company Databases, Professional Bodies, LinkedIn Groups)

This list contains links to some of the most useful websites for your course including professional bodies and associations, employer directories, information sources and LinkedIn groups.

General websites — useful links

- World-wide Business Directory - www.kompass.com
- Working abroad (country profiles) - www.prospects.ac.uk/country_profiles.htm
- Worldwide Media guide - www.mondotimes.com
- Yellow and White pages directories from around the world - www.superpages.com/global/
- Specialists in Student Travel - www.usit.ie
- Working abroad (country profiles) www.targetjobs.co.uk/careers-advice/working-abroad

Careers open to all disciplines (Including 'Paths Into...' Series)

Many graduate vacancies don't require specific degree subjects as possession of a degree is taken as evidence of intellectual ability. What is more important to the potential employer is the range of transferable skills and experience you can demonstrate.

Many graduate training programmes take final year students from a wide range of disciplines, register with the [Career Development Centre's Jobsence](#) for a full list of programmes. Here is a range of career areas that are potentially open to graduates of all disciplines. It's important to note that some of these options may require further study either on the job or beforehand.

If you are considering diversifying or changing career direction a postgraduate conversion course may be a viable option.

Some examples of career areas open to students of all disciplines:

- Teaching & Education
- Financial Services & Accounting
- Marketing, Advertising and PR
- Retail, Sales and Customer Service
- Banking, insurance and financial services
- Charities and voluntary sector
- Fund management / administration and investment banking
- Human resources, recruitment and training
- Management consulting
- Management, business and administration
- Media and publishing
- Public sector and civil service
- Social, community and youth

For further information see: www.gradireland.com/career-sectors

Further Study

Are you considering further study or training? See www.tudublin.ie/careers for comprehensive information

Conversion courses

Some graduates find that their primary degree did not meet their expectations, either vocationally, academically or personally, and seek change career direction. Conversion courses offer the opportunity to diversify into another chosen career area while meeting the necessary entry requirements for that discipline. However, it should be noted that this is not the case for all disciplines e.g. disciplines such as science and engineering will require an undergraduate degree in that discipline.

Self Employment

Ever thought of being your own boss? Think you have an innovative product or service idea that could have commercial value? Want to commercialise your research? See www.tudublin.ie/careers

Other Options (e.g. Time out, travel etc.)

Volunteering and working with communities with is a great way to gain valuable real world experience, to develop new skills, to meet new people, to do something worthwhile and to improve your employability. For more details, see www.tudublin.ie/careers.

Labour Market Information

For information on the latest labour market trends see www.tudublin.ie/careers.

Additional Information / Advice

For any query you might have, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.