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Graphic Designer

More information can be found at

[Graphic Designer \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/Graphic-Designer)



Gyrfa Cymru
Careers Wales





Qualifications Required

HNC/HND, NVQ 4or5 up to Degree, NVQ 6

To get onto an apprenticeship, you'll usually need five GCSEs at grade C/4 or above, possibly including English and maths.

The usual entry requirements for a relevant foundation course are 1/2 A levels. You'll need an A level in art or in an art-based subject, and GCSE passes at grade C/4 or above in 4/5 subjects. Some courses ask that you have a pass in English.

Alternatives to A levels include relevant vocational qualifications and the International Baccalaureate Diploma.

Many other qualifications are also accepted so check university websites for more details.

The entry requirements for relevant HNCs, HNDs and foundation degrees are similar to those needed for the Foundation course mentioned above.



Skills and Qualities

To become a Graphic Designer, you'll need:

- creative skills and original ideas
- an understanding of colour, shape and form
- good communication and negotiation skills
- to work well on your own and with others
- IT skills
- to pay attention to detail
- good organisation and planning skills
- to work to deadlines and budgets
- problem-solving skills



Self-employed or freelance Graphic Designers will need business and marketing skills.

Do I need Welsh Language skills?

Welsh Language skills are often asked for. Being able to read, write and speak Welsh may be an advantage when you're looking for work in Wales.



Entry Routes

A common route into this career is via a foundation course in art and design followed by a degree in graphic design.

Look out for courses with alternative titles, including:

- graphic design
- graphic communication
- visual communication
- graphic branding and identity



Remember to look closely at the content before you decide which course will suit you best.

Some students study a degree in another art and design subject before moving into graphic design later on. A great way to get into this career is through an internship. Take a look at our information article 'Internships', for more details.

The industry body, Creative Skillset, has a list of accredited university courses on its website.

You will need to build up a portfolio of your work, whichever entry route you choose.



Salary

Pay rates for Graphic Designers vary with the industry and responsibilities.

The pay rates given below are approximate.

- Starting: £20,500 - £22,500
- With experience: £24,000 - £27,000
- Senior positions: £29,000 - £32,000

Some Graphic Designers receive profit-related bonuses, in addition to their salary.



**For entry to the Sixth Form, some schools
require that students need 5 A*-C at GCSE such
as:**

Art & Design

- B in Art

DT: Product Design

- C & above in DT or Art
- B+ in BTEC Engineering

DT: Fashion & Textiles

- C & above in DT
- B+ in Art
- C English Language, B+ would be beneficial



**To find out more click on the QR
code below**



For more information or help with your career planning

Please Contact your school-based careers adviser

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