Interior Designer

**Industry Demand of Interior Designer**

Off-late the growing need for comfortable and luxurious homes has led to an increasing demand for Interior Designers. Therefore, people’s desires and wants to add aesthetics has increased tremendously. Job prospects should be best in high-income areas, because wealthy clients are more likely than others to engage in remodeling and renovating their spaces.

Many designers specialize in particular types of buildings or specific rooms, some examples include:

* Residential designers → works with clients and specializes in home design
* Commercial designers → specializes in commercial buildings like hotels, restaurants, stores, etc.
* Corporate designers → designs for professional workplace in a variety of settings like offices
* Healthcare designers → plan and renovate healthcare centers, clinics, hospitals, and residential care facilities
* Kitchen and bath designers → specialize in kitchens and bathrooms
* Sustainable designers → suggest strategies to improve energy and water efficiencies and indoor air quality as well as environmentally sustainable products
* Universal designers → renovate spaces in order to make them more accessible

Others work within a furnishing or home goods store as a design consultant or are self-employed and open their own firm.

**Salary (Range)**

* Entry Level Salary in the United States: $40,000/year
* Mid Level Salary in the United States: $75,000/year
* Entry Level Salary in Indonesia: Rp 54,000,000/year
* Mid Level Salary in Indonesia: Rp 96,000,000/year

**Core Tasks**

* Search for and bid on new interior design projects
* Determine the client’s goals and requirements for the project
* Consider how the space will be used and how people will move through the space
* Sketch preliminary design plans, including electrical and partition layouts
* Specify materials and furnishings, such as lighting, furniture, wall finishes, flooring, and plumbing fixtures
* Create a timeline for the project and estimate project costs
* Maintain relationships with vendors and place orders for materials from them and oversee the installation of the design elements
* Oversee construction and coordinate with general building contractors to implement the plans and specifications for the project
* Visit the site after the project is complete, to ensure that the client is satisfied

**Working Conditions**

* Most interior designers work in offices, but technology has changed the way many designers work. For example, interior designers now use software rather than drafting tables to create two- or three-dimensional images
* They also divide their time to travel to clients’ design sites
* They usually work in cooperation with other professionals such as architects, general contractors, and engineers to complete projects

**Skills Required**

* Creativity skills and attention to detail
* Sketching ability and computer knowledge (Autodesk AutoCAD, SketchUp, SmartDraw, Planner 5D, etc.)
* Knowledge of design trends and materials
* Budgeting and time management skills
* Communication and organizational skills

**Career progression data**

* Earn a bachelor’s degree in a related field (Interior Design, Architecture, etc.)
* Seek out experience-building career opportunities to start building a portfolio, like internships, apprenticeships, or entry-level jobs
* After 2 years, take the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) exam to be licensed and qualified as an “interior designer” (Licensure requirements vary by state and there is no exam in Indonesia)
* Work for an established firm and advance to positions such as chief designer or design department head or alternatively, open your own interior design business

**Possible University Major**

* Interior Design
* Architecture
* Industrial Design
* Fine Arts

**School subjects required**

* Art
* Mathematics