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MI 349: Challenge (Pick and Explore a “10 Things” Topic)

Careers in Web Design

Within the field of web development, there are several different career paths one could pursue. However, before one can attain one of these jobs, there are various items that must be checked off. To start off, one needs to invest a lot of time practicing their web developing skills, such as creating a personal blog, which will ultimately help set them apart from other candidates. Moreover, researching the most recent trends in technology through conferences, books, and online resources is critical as a web designer.

Aside from consistent practicing and keeping track of recent trends in the industry, many companies also require a BA or BS in a related field. Advanced degrees are not necessary unless they are required for a specific position. After one has practiced, researched, and earned the necessary experience and/or education, they are ready to apply to jobs. In most cases, a web designer's first job will be a junior position as a Front-End Developer, UX Designer, or a similar career. In this setting, one will be working under senior developers and managers, learning the various responsibilities the job entails. In this position, it is crucial to ask all kinds of questions and take on small leadership roles wherever possible.

As far as the pay goes, the salary of a typical web designer ranges depending on the position and location. In Lansing, the average pay for a junior web developer is around \$48,000, however, in cities like New York the salary could be double of that amount. Moreover, as with most other jobs, as one moves up to mid and senior level positions, the pay will increase significantly, inching closer to triple digits. Overall, web designers are highly sought-after professionals and are paid accordingly, identifying itself as a great career to pursue.