

## **CAREER OF THE WEEK: UX Designer**

### **What does a UX designer do?**

A UX (User Experience) designer focuses on making digital products — such as websites, apps, and software — easy, enjoyable, and effective to use. They research how people interact with technology, create wireframes (basic layouts), design user journeys, and test prototypes to find and fix issues. UX designers work closely with UI (User Interface) designers, developers, and product managers. Their goal is to ensure the final product not only looks good but also works smoothly for its target audience.

### **What can I expect to earn as a UX designer?**

In the UK, junior UX designers typically start on around £25,000–£32,000 a year. With a few years' experience, mid-level roles often pay between £35,000–£50,000. Senior UX designers, team leads, or specialists can earn £55,000–£75,000 or more, especially in large tech companies or agencies. Freelance UX designers can set their own rates, often charging £200–£500 a day depending on experience and the project's complexity.

### **What subjects should I study to become a UX designer?**

There's no single "right" path into UX design, but certain subjects can help build the skills you'll need. At school or college, consider:

IT or Computer Science – to understand how technology works.

Art & Design – for creativity, visual skills, and design principles.

Psychology – to learn how people think and behave.

English or Media Studies – to improve communication and storytelling.

At university, popular degrees include Digital Design, Human–Computer Interaction, Product Design, or Graphic Design. Some UX designers come from completely unrelated fields and build their skills through short courses or self-study.

### **How can I start my career as a UX designer?**

Start by learning the basics of UX principles, user research, and design tools like Figma, Adobe XD, or Sketch — many have free versions. Create a portfolio by redesigning existing apps or websites, or by taking part in design challenges. You could also volunteer to improve the websites of charities, clubs, or small businesses. Internships, apprenticeships, or entry-level design roles are great for gaining experience. Networking at tech meetups, joining UX communities online, and following industry blogs will also help you stay ahead of trends.

UX design is a growing, in-demand field, so if you enjoy problem-solving, creativity, and making things work better for people, it could be the perfect career for you.

To research local education and training opportunities that could lead to a career as a UX designer, visit our partner website [www.logonmoveon.co.uk](http://www.logonmoveon.co.uk)

### **Other useful websites to find out more about a career as a UX designer:**

National Careers Service, UX Designer <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/ux-designer>

Prospects, UX Designer <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/ux-designer>

BBC Bitesize, UX Designer <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zm2rvk7>

