

Apprenticeship vacancies

DID YOU KNOW?

Alexander McQueen

After leaving school at 16, legendary designer Alexander McQueen began an apprenticeship as a tailor on Saville Row with Anderson and Shepherd. It was there he learnt the solid tailoring skills that would stand him in excellent stead when he came to designing his own work. As his skills grew, so did his curiosity - he completed another internship with theatrical costume designers Angels and Bermans, and from that he went on to win Young British Designer Of The Year FOUR times.

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DID YOU KNOW?

John Frieda

Beginning his career by helping out in his father's hairdressing salon after school, Mr Frieda went on to launch one of the most prestigious hair-care brands in the world, selling his products all over the globe, as well as becoming a personal stylist to some of the world's most famous celebrities.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Henry Ford

Henry Ford's family were in fact farmers in Michigan, and young Henry left the toils of the field in order to take up an apprenticeship as a machinist in Detroit as a spritely seventeen year old. The two year scheme allowed him to learn the fundamentals of automobile engineering, and it wasn't long before he was unleashing his own ideas about personal transportation upon the world.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Vincent Van Gogh

Vincent Van Gogh became an apprentice with an art dealer group called Goupil and Cie in his late teens, and though he worked for and travelled with this company for a few years, he was roundly fired in March of 1876. Vincent then decided that the church was to be his true vocation. But, unable to overcome his love of beautiful creations, he began painting in his late-twenties, inspired by the art he had come across in his earlier years.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Benjamin Franklin

Mr Franklin learnt from his brother James as a printing apprentice aged just 13. When James Franklin was imprisoned for publishing apparently libellous content to his newspaper, it was left to Benjamin to run the business himself. Not only was he able to establish himself as a wonderful writer, his inventing instincts were stretched; introducing new methods of casting and publishing to the world at large.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Elvis Presley

The world famous singer, Elvis Presley, actually trained as an Apprentice Electrician prior to signing his record deal. He went on to become one of the most well-known faces of the twentieth century.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Billy Connolly

Prior to becoming the much loved comedian and actor, Billy Connolly left school at fifteen to take up a welding Apprenticeship in a shipyard.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Jamie Oliver

Jamie Oliver started out as a catering apprentice and worked his way up to opening his own chain of restaurants and being introduced into the culinary hall of fame. In 2003 he was awarded an MBE for his services to the UK hospitality industry.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Stella McCartney

Stella took on an Apprenticeship with a Saville Row tailor when she was a fashion student. There she learnt the skills of trade, from drawing up patterns to even taking up trouser hems. After opening her own boutique in London, she rose up the ranks to become fashion royalty and is now one of the world's best-known fashion designers.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Gordon Ramsey

Gordon Ramsey started off as an Apprentice in the Catering industry. He eventually went on to opening his own restaurant which eventually expanded across the world, along with his name.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Sir Ian McKellen

Most people will know Sir Ian McKellan as Gandalf. Sir Ian completed a three-year Apprenticeship at the Belgrade Theatre in Coventry. It was here that he gained his acting experience and became one of the most celebrated actors in British history.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Ross Brawn

Ross was team principle for some of the top Formula One teams over his career. He started out as an Apprentice and after completing his Apprenticeship in Mechanical Engineering, he decided he wanted to pursue his passion for Formula One. Ross used the knowledge he had gained from his Apprenticeship and climbed the ranks, allowing him to end up running some of the most successful teams in Formula One history.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Lord Bamford

Lord Bamford started as an Agricultural Equipment Apprentice and is now the chairman of JCB - one of the UK's most successful family-owned businesses.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Sir Alex Ferguson

Sir Alex Ferguson began his career as an Apprentice Toolmaker. He then went on to pursue his dream in the Football industry and is now considered as one of the greatest and most successful football managers of all time.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Karen Millen

Karen started her career as an Apprentice, training at the Medway College of Design in Rochester.

Karen's business was founded in 1981 when she partnered with then-boyfriend Kevin Stanford. With a loan of just £100, they bought 1,000 metres of white cotton and began making and selling white shirts to their friends. This soon turned into a super successful fashion brand and Karen made millions when it was sold in 2004.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Laurence Graff

Graff is one of the most successful former apprentices in the country, with a net worth of almost £3billion. After leaving school at 15 he became an apprentice jeweller in London in the early 1950's. After his first employer went out of business, he utilised the skills he had learnt during his apprenticeship and began selling his own designs to jewellers across the country.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Clare Smyth

Protégé of Gordon Ramsey, and the only woman to run a three Michelin star restaurant, Smyth moved to England from Northern Ireland to pursue her love of cooking at aged 16. She gained apprenticeships in various restaurants across the capital, including one owned by Heston Blumenthal, before moving to work for Gordon Ramsey and working her way up to become head chef at the age of just 29.

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DID YOU KNOW?

George Clark

Architect and presenter of 'Restoration Man', 'Amazing Spaces' and 'Shed of the Year', George Clarke began his career in architecture through an apprenticeship he was offered at the age of 16. Alongside his current successes as a TV personality, he also helps to run a scheme that pairs young people with few job prospects, with retired builders who are willing to train them.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Ozzy Osbourne

Before his rise to stardom, Ozzy completed an apprenticeship in plumbing. Once this was over, Ozzy swapped tools for tattoos and launched his rock and roll career, leading him to solo work, and his own TV show titled 'The Osbournes' also featuring the rest of his family.

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