



Suffolk Joint  
Construction  
Committee

# Design Manager

Design managers are involved with the design, development and construction of a huge range of projects in the built environment.

## THE ROLE

As a design manager you would plan and manage the design and supervise the construction of projects. During the early stages of a career, work will involve taking responsibility for minor projects, but the size of the projects may increase as you gain experience.

You could work in a number of different settings and, with experience, can run projects as a project manager.

You will need the ability to think both creatively and logically to resolve design and development problems.

You should be commercially aware and capable of working well within a team environment. Other key skills include sound mathematical and technical skills including physics, excellent verbal and written communication skills.

## SALARY EXPECTATIONS

Starting salaries typically range from £17,000 to £25,000, depending on your location

Obtaining chartered status increases both your salary and job options

At more senior levels, salaries typically range from £30,000 to over £65,000 depending on the size of the business and nature of the projects

## CAREER PROGRESSION

**CIVIL  
ENGINEERING  
TECHNICIAN**

**TRAINEE  
DESIGN  
MANAGER**

**DESIGN/  
PROJECT  
MANAGER**

**CHIEF  
ENGINEER/  
HEAD OF DEPT.**

# Design Manager

## ENTRY ROUTE

You could enter the civil engineering profession at technician level by studying a BTEC HNC/HND or foundation degree in engineering.

With further training and experience on the job you could work up to an engineer status. Alternatively, you could start as a civil engineering technician on an apprenticeship and earn while you learn.

## TYPICAL TASKS FOR A DESIGN MANAGER:

- Responsibility for the management and coordination of designs across the project, ensuring design requirements are met in coordination with the client's expectations
- Undertaking technical and feasibility studies and site investigations
- Managing the design in accordance with the budget and programme
- Able to clearly identify design scope and ensure the correct elements of completing the design are brought within the project
- Managing change, as the client may change their mind about the design, and ensuring relevant parties are notified of changes in the project
- Track and manage quality and delivery of design information
- Liaise with design team to ensure the incoming base design information suits the project budget and programme
- Overseeing the use of all resources within organisations

**For more information on becoming a design manager visit:**

**[www.goconstruct.org](http://www.goconstruct.org)  
[www.citb.co.uk](http://www.citb.co.uk)  
or talk to your local college**

**Your career journey starts here!**

