



SAARTHI - सारथी

करियर मार्गदर्शन पोर्टल · Career Guidance Portal

"सही मार्गदर्शन, उज्ज्वल भविष्य।"

करियर शीट · CAREER SHEET

फुटवियर डिज़ाइनर

A Footwear Designer creates new designs and sample patterns for shoes and sandals for men, women and children. Keeping current fashion trends, comfort, leather or other materials and cost in mind, they sketch designs, pick...



Scan for everything on this career

Salary, exams, colleges, the routes in and the steps after — all on the portal.

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/footwear-designer

राजकीय उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय, जेठन्तरी

Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Jethantri · ब्लॉक समदड़ी · बालोतरा (Block Samdari · Balotra)

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सुशील कुमार शर्मा

प्रधानाचार्य, रा.उ.मा.वि. जेठन्तरी · मास्टर ट्रेनर
Principal, GSSS Jethantri · Master Trainer



श्री चेनाराम चौधरी

प्रधानाचार्य, डाइट बाड़मेर
Principal, DIET Barmer



श्रीमती संघमित्रा

वरिष्ठ व्याख्याता, डाइट बाड़मेर (सहयोग)
Sr. Lecturer, DIET Barmer (Support)



भरत चौधरी

अभिकल्पना व विकास · व्याख्याता (इतिहास)
Designed & developed · Lecturer (History)

विशेष धन्यवाद · SPECIAL THANKS



सुरेन्द्र सिंह राठौड़

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. कानाना



सुरेश कुमार सैन

व्याख्याता (भूगोल) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



वनिता कुमारी

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



कमलेश चौधरी

व्याख्याता (राजनीति विज्ञान) · रा.उ.मा.वि. टापरा

करियर मार्गदर्शन कार्यशाला, डाइट बाड़मेर (14-17 जुलाई 2026) में विकसित व लोकार्पित
Developed & unveiled at the Career Guidance Workshop, DIET Barmer (14-17 July 2026)

यह एक स्वतंत्र परियोजना है, जो सरकार की आधिकारिक करियर-मार्गदर्शन सामग्री पर आधारित है। · An independent project based on the Government's official career-guidance content.

1 About this career

A Footwear Designer creates new designs and sample patterns for shoes and sandals for men, women and children. Keeping current fashion trends, comfort, leather or other materials and cost in mind, they sketch designs, pick colours and materials, get prototypes (samples) made and work with the production team to take the product to market. India is a major global footwear manufacturing hub, and there is strong demand for this work across the leather clusters of Agra, Kanpur and Rajasthan. It is an exciting career that blends creativity, technology and craftsmanship.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	Class 12 pass (any stream); a Diploma/B.Design helps
Course duration	Diploma 1–2 years / B.Design 4 years
Starting salary	₹18,000–28,000/month
Work mode	Full-time in factory/design studio; freelance too

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- A keen interest in fashion, style and new trends
- Love experimenting with leather, fabric and materials
- Enjoy sketching by hand and designing things

ABILITIES

- Creative imagination and a good sense of colour and form
- Good hand skills and dexterity (hands-on ability)
- Attention to detail and precision

KEY SKILLS

- Footwear sketching, illustration and design presentation
- Identifying and selecting leather and other materials
- Researching fashion trends, colours and seasonal themes
- Knowledge of costing, production and quality
- Pattern making (last, upper, sole) and sample development
- CAD/design software (e.g. Shoemaster, CorelDraw, Illustrator)
- Understanding comfort, fit and ergonomics

4 How to get there

- 1 Complete Class 12 in any stream and practise sketching/design.
- 2 Take an entrance test like FDDI-AIST, NID DAT or UCEED and join a Diploma or B.Design in footwear/leather design.
- 3 In Rajasthan, consider institutes like FDDI Jodhpur or ARCH Jaipur.
- 4 Build practical knowledge of CAD software, pattern making and materials.
- 5 Do an internship/apprenticeship at a shoe company, export house or design studio.
- 6 Start as a junior/assistant designer and grow by building a strong portfolio.

MAIN EXAMS

- FDDI All India Selection Test (FDDI-AIST)
- NID Design Aptitude Test (NID DAT)
- UCEED – IIT B.Design entrance exam

5 Where to study**GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES**

- फुटवियर डिज़ाइन एंड डेवलपमेंट इंस्टीट्यूट (FDDI) – जोधपुर कैंपस — Jodhpur, Rajasthan (<https://fddiindia.com/campus-jodhpur>)
- FDDI – स्कूल ऑफ फुटवियर डिज़ाइन एंड प्रोडक्शन (नोएडा व अन्य कैंपस) — Noida & all-India campuses (<https://www.fddiindia.com/school-of-footwear-design-production.php>)
- नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ फैशन टेक्नोलॉजी (NIFT) – जोधपुर — Jodhpur, Rajasthan (<https://www.nift.ac.in/jodhpur/>)
- नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ डिज़ाइन (NID) — Ahmedabad & other campuses (<https://www.nid.edu/>)

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- ARCH कॉलेज ऑफ डिज़ाइन एंड बिज़नेस (क्राफ्ट एवं एक्सेसरी डिज़ाइन) — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.archedu.org/b-des-craft-accessory-design.html>)
- काउंसिल फॉर लेदर एक्सपोर्ट्स (CLE) – प्रशिक्षण व उद्योग संसाधन — All-India / Chennai (<https://leatherindia.org/>)

ONLINE

- स्किल इंडिया डिजिटल हब — Online (<https://www.skillindiadigital.gov.in/>)
- करियर्स360 – फुटवियर/शू डिज़ाइनर कैसे बनें — Online guide (<https://design.careers360.com/articles/how-to-become-a-shoe-designer>)

FEES

At government institutes like FDDI, a B.Design in footwear design costs roughly ₹1–1.5 lakh per year; diploma/certificate courses are cheaper. At private institutes like ARCH it can be ₹1.5–3 lakh per year. Eligible students can get scholarships and fee concessions.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- राष्ट्रीय छात्रवृत्ति पोर्टल (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in>)
- Buddy4Study – डिज़ाइन एवं व्यावसायिक छात्रवृत्ति (<https://www.buddy4study.com/>)
- SJE Rajasthan Scholarships (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in/>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Shoe manufacturing factories, export houses, design studios, brand design departments, and the leather clusters of Agra, Kanpur and Rajasthan.

WORK CULTURE

Typically 5–6 days a week, 8–9 hours a day. Time is split between sketching/designing in the studio and sampling on the factory floor. Workload peaks around seasonal collections and deadlines. With experience there is also the option to freelance or start your own brand.

WHO HIRES

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Large shoe brands like Bata, Relaxo, Woodland and Metro Shoes | • Footwear and leather export houses in Agra, Kanpur and Rajasthan |
| • Sports and casual footwear companies (e.g. Puma, Adidas, Campus, Liberty) | • Footwear/jutti design startups and D2C brands (e.g. Neeman's, NeedleDust) |

- Design studios, retail chains and e-commerce fashion companies
- Leather and handicraft entrepreneurs and clusters in Rajasthan/Agra

DEMAND (2026)

India is among the world's largest footwear producers and its footwear industry is growing fast. With rising domestic demand as well as exports, the need for designers stays strong. The leather clusters of Agra, Kanpur and Rajasthan, big brands and new D2C startups all offer good opportunities for skilled footwear designers.

7 Career growth

- 1 Junior / Assistant Footwear Designer
- 2 Footwear Designer
- 3 Senior Designer / Design Lead
- 4 Design Head / Creative Director or independent brand entrepreneur

EARNINGS

Starting	₹18,000–28,000/माह
Mid level	₹35,000–60,000/माह
Senior level	₹80,000–1,50,000+/माह

According to Careers360, a footwear designer in India earns on average around ₹29,000–31,000/month and roughly ₹3–11 lakh per year. Pay rises with experience, brand and city; as a senior designer, design head or running one's own brand, income can be considerably higher.

8 The good parts · The challenges**The good parts**

- Exciting work that blends creativity, fashion and craftsmanship
- Good opportunities in India's growing footwear industry and exports
- Option to freelance or launch your own brand

The challenges

- Work pressure around seasonal collections and deadlines
- Pay can be limited at the entry level
- Long hours and effort on the factory floor and with materials

9 Real-life journeys

Shirin Mann

Footwear designer and founder, NeedleDust (handcrafted jutti brand)

Shirin Mann from Chandigarh was earlier a journalist with no formal fashion training. Unable to find the jutti she wanted for her own wedding, she designed her own pair, which drew wide praise. Inspired by this, she launched the brand 'NeedleDust' in 2014 and brought the traditional jutti back into fashion with modern design. Today her handcrafted juttis are worn by stars like Deepika Padukone, Priyanka Chopra and Alia Bhatt. Her story shows how passion and design sense can build one's own brand in footwear.

YourStory · <https://yourstory.com/weekender/made-in-india-footwear-brand-needledust-deepika-padukone-priyanka-chopra>

Taran Chhabra

Founder, Neeman's (sustainable footwear brand)

Taran Chhabra struggled to find good, comfortable shoes, which sparked the idea of making better footwear in India. Despite having no prior shoe-industry experience, he travelled to manufacturing hubs worldwide to learn shoemaking and designed eco-friendly shoes made from merino wool and recycled materials. His brand 'Neeman's', started in 2018, is today one of India's leading sustainable footwear brands. His story shows how new materials and design thinking can build a big name in the footwear industry.

Entrepreneur India · <https://india.entrepreneur.com/business-news/a-sustainable-shoemaker/452662>

10 If this route does not work out

One exam or one attempt does not close the door. The same subjects also open these routes — entry is usually easier, and you can return to this field later.

- Textile Design Technician
- Product Designer
- Multimedia Designer

11 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance – Footwear Designer — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/footwear-designer%e0%a4%ab%e0%a5%81%e0%a4%9f%e0%a4%b5%e0%a4%bf%e0%a4%af%e0%a4%b0-%e0%a4%a1%e0%a4%bf%e0%a4%9c%e0%a4%bc%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%87%e0%a4%a8%e0%a4%b0/>
2. Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI) — <https://fddiindia.com/>
3. Careers360 – Footwear Designer Salary — <https://design.careers360.com/articles/footwear-designer-salary-in-india>
4. Council for Leather Exports (CLE) — <https://leatherindia.org/>
5. National Scholarship Portal — <https://scholarships.gov.in>



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