

## What Can I Do With a Major In...

### **Major: Home Furnishings Merchandising**

<https://cmht.unt.edu/home>

### ***What is Home Furnishings Merchandising?***

<https://www.unt.edu/pais/insert/uhfmd.htm>

Want a major and career where you can show your creativity and apply your business skills? The home furnishings and decorative accessories field is a multi-billion dollar industry devoted to the creation, production and distribution of home fashion products.

Home environments express an individual's lifestyle and represent their concept of home. Our program is one of the few nationwide focusing specifically on the many home furnishings products continually arriving on the market. These products are the creative, aesthetic and functional results of home furnishings merchandisers.

### ***Your Future in Home Furnishings Merchandising***

<http://mdr.unt.edu/content/home-furnishings-merchandising>

As a home furnishing merchandiser, you may be involved in creating, developing, sourcing, manufacturing and merchandising products within the broad categories of home furnishings and decorative accessories. Your career path could lead to work with:

- Furniture and decorative accessories companies
- Home accent and decorative accessory companies
- Home builders
- Home centers
- Manufacturers
- Sales representatives
- Showroom management

Our graduates work at many of the home furnishings and decorative accessory-related companies in the region as well as at home centers for major national retailers, at specialty companies, in their own business or in wholesale showrooms.

The Home Furnishings Merchandising program will teach you how to apply merchandising strategies in a consumer-driven global market. Faculty members work closely with professionals in the Dallas-Fort Worth home furnishings industry tailoring the program to meet the profession's needs.

**Related Career Titles (with OnetOnline links)**

**Entry-Level (Bachelor's Degree):**

Advertising

Custom Home Designer  
Design Consultant  
Fabric Coordinator  
Government Researcher  
Home Furnishings Buyer  
Importer  
Installer  
Inventory Controller  
Kitchen and Bath Planner  
Manufacturer's Representative

Merchandise Manager  
Produce Developer  
Production Manager  
Quality Control Analyst  
Residential Interior Decorator  
Sales Representative  
Showroom Coordinator  
Space Planner  
Technical Illustrator  
Trend Analyst  
Visual Merchandiser

**Jobs Requiring Additional Education or Experience:**

Banking  
Buyer  
E-commerce  
Fashion Designer  
Finance  
Insurance Agent  
Interior Designer

Market Research Analyst  
Marketing Assistant  
Real Estate Agent  
Regional Manager  
Store Manager  
Store Owner

*Also see **What Can I Do With a Major In Merchandising** and  
**What Can I Do With a Major In Digital Retailing** for more career possibilities*

**Related Work Sites**

Advertising Agencies  
Apparel Wholesale Firms  
Building Materials Stores  
Call Centers  
Clothing Stores  
Consumer Product Companies  
Department Stores  
Design Firms  
Discount Stores  
Electronics Stores  
Financial Companies  
Furniture Stores  
Grocery Stores  
Home Furnishings Stores  
Home Shopping Networks

Independent Retailers  
Insurance Companies  
Internet Marketing Companies  
Manufacturing Companies  
Mass Merchants  
Media Organizations  
Networking Abilities  
Non-profit Organizations  
Online Retailers  
Print and Electronic Media Outlets  
Privately Owned Establishments  
Retail Corporate Offices  
Retail Stores  
Sporting Goods Stores  
Telemarketing

***Skills to Develop to Include on a Resume***

Active listening	Networking Abilities
Advertising and Promotions experience	Organizational skills
Analytical thinking	Patience and perseverance
Attention to detail	Persuasiveness
Budget and fiscal management	Planning projects
Compare products, prices, and markets	Presenting information
Competitive drive	Public speaking
Creative problem solving	Quick decision making
Customer Service foundation	Sales/Retail Experience
Decisiveness	Stress management
Demonstrate enthusiasm	Strong computer knowledge
Forecasting Skills	Supervisory Skills
Independence	Teamwork
Initiative	Willingness to travel/relocate
Interpersonal skills	Willing to work weekends, holidays, evenings, and long or unusual hours
Knowledge of consumer preferences	Work well under pressure
Knowledge of languages, customs, cultures	Work well with different types of people
Leadership	Written and oral communication skills
Marketing skills	
Negotiating skills	

***Exploring Careers in Home Furnishings Merchandising***

Career Overview: <http://www.careeroverview.com/retail-marketing-careers.html>

Home Furnishings News: <http://www.hfndigital.com/>

Infomat: <http://www.infomat.com/>

Retail Wire: <http://www.retailwire.com/>

Study.com:

[http://study.com/articles/Career Information for a Degree in Merchandising Marketing Sales and Distribution.html](http://study.com/articles/Career_Information_for_a_Degree_in_Merchandising_Marketing_Sales_and_Distribution.html)

This is Retail: <https://nrf.com/who-we-are/this-is-retail>

***Professional Associations***

American Apparel and Footwear Association: <https://www.wewear.org/>

Dallas/Fort Worth Retail Executives Association: <http://www.dfwrea.org/>

International Textile and Apparel Association: <http://itaaonline.org/>

National Retail Federation: <https://nrf.com/>

Professional Retail Store Maintenance Association: <http://www.prsm.com/>

Retail Industry Leaders Association: <http://www.rila.org/Pages/default.aspx>

United Association Manufacturers' Representatives: <http://www.uamr.com/>

World Alliance for Retail Excellence & Standards: <http://www.retailworldalliance.com/>

### ***Student Organizations***

CMHT Ambassadors: <http://cmht.unt.edu/ambassadors>  
CMHT International: <http://cmht.unt.edu/international-org>  
CMHT Living and Learning Community: <http://cmht.unt.edu/living-and-learning-community>  
Merchandising Inc.: <http://www.merchandisingincorporated.com/>  
NRF Student Association: <https://mdr.unt.edu/content/student-organizations>  
UNT Student Organizations: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-organizations>

### ***Job Search Links***

All Retail Jobs: <http://www.allretailjobs.com/>  
Anderson Merchandisers: <http://amerch.com/careers/careers-at-anderson/>  
Eagle Careers:  
[studentaffairs.unt.edu/eagle-careers](http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/eagle-careers)  
Fashion Jobs: <http://us.fashionjobs.com/world/#r>  
Fashion Net: <http://www.fashion.net/jobs/>  
Lawrence Merchandising Services: <http://www.lmsvc.com/careers/>  
Merchandising Jobs: <http://merchandising.jobs.net/>  
Quest Merchandiser: [http://questmerchandiser.no-ip.org:8045/asp/ICS\\_QM/Default.aspx](http://questmerchandiser.no-ip.org:8045/asp/ICS_QM/Default.aspx)  
Retail Jobs: <http://www.job-applications.com/retail-jobs/>  
Retail Merchandising Services:  
<https://www.rmsservicing.com/become-a-retail-merchandiser.aspx>  
Style Careers: <http://www.stylecareers.com/>  
UNT Merchandising: <http://mdr.unt.edu/content/job-postings>  
Work in Retail: <http://www.workinretail.com/>

### ***Internship Search Links***

America's Job Exchange: <http://www.americasjobexchange.com/>  
Career Rookie: <http://www.career rookie.com/>  
College Grad: <https://collegegrad.com/>  
Eagle Careers: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/eagle-careers>  
Indeed: <http://www.indeed.com/>  
InternJobs: <http://internjobs.com/>  
Internships: <http://www.internships.com/>  
Jobing: <http://www.jobing.com/>  
Jobs Flag: <http://www.jobsflag.com/>  
Jobs Radar: <http://www.jobsradar.com/>  
Link Up: <http://www.linkup.com/>  
LinkedIn: [https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/?trk=hb\\_ft\\_jobs](https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/?trk=hb_ft_jobs)  
Zip Recruiter: <https://www.ziprecruiter.com/>

*Don't forget to search job and internship postings on each company's individual website!*

**Find a Mentor**

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/>

**Additional Resources**

Bankrate Cost of Living Calculator:

<http://www.bankrate.com/calculators/savings/moving-cost-of-living-calculator.aspx>

CareerHMO: <http://careerhmo.com/>

CareerOneStop: <http://www.careeronestop.org/>

CareeRealism: <http://www.careerealism.com/>

CollegeGrad: <http://www.collegegrad.com/jobs>

GlassDoor: <http://www.glassdoor.com/index.htm>

Going Global: <http://online.goinglobal.com/default.aspx>

LinkedIn: <http://university.linkedin.com/linkedin-for-students.html>

mySkills myFuture: <http://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/>

Salary Calculator Center: [www.jobsearchintelligence.com/salary-calculator-intro/-etc](http://www.jobsearchintelligence.com/salary-calculator-intro/-etc)

Occupational Outlook Handbook: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

O\*NET OnLine: <http://www.onetonline.org/>

PayScale Salary Survey: <http://www.payscale.com/wizards/choose.aspx>

Sperling's Compare Cost of Living: <http://www.bestplaces.net/cost-of-living/>

**Need help figuring all this out? Call the Career Center and make an appointment with your Career Development Specialist! You can also get help with resume and cover letter writing and interview skills preparation.**

*\*Information for this handout compiled from the following Career Services Departments:*

Central Washington University: <http://www.cwu.edu/career/>

Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne: <http://www.ipfw.edu/offices/career/>

Texas State University: <http://www.careerservices.txstate.edu/>

University of North Carolina Wilmington: <http://www.uncw.edu/career/index.html>

University of North Texas: <http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center>

University of Tennessee-Knoxville: <http://career.utk.edu/>

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire: <http://www.uwec.edu/Career/index.htm>

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