



GLADEO PRESENTS

HOW TO BECOME A

VIDEO GAME DESIGNER



"The Dreamers"- Video game designers imagine everything from scratch, including the characters, gameplay, mechanics, and the plot. They might come from various different backgrounds: technical, audio, or art.

A DAY IN THE LIFE

PRE-PRODUCTION

- Dreams up and outlines game concept.
- Compiles everything into the game design document (the "game blueprint") which includes concept, gameplay, feature list, setting/story, target audience, requirements/schedule, and staff/budget estimates.

PRODUCTION

- Works with programmers and artists to ensure their design is being carried out.
- Checks builds. Creates flowcharts.

QUALITIES YOU NEED TO MAKE IT TO THE TOP

- **RELENTLESSNESS:** Have enough **GRIT** to never give up. You must be willing to work many hours fixing bugs.
- **HUMILITY:** Be humble about your hard work.
- **PASSION:** Be passionate about design and good stories
- **COMMUNICATION SKILLS:** Be great at communication and get ready to work with teams of different people and unique personalities.

SKILLS NEEDED

- Storytelling capabilities
- Time Management
- Creative thinking
- Design
- Problem-solving
- Tech savvy: Helpful to know scripting language (Lua, Python, 3D Modeling software).



EDUCATION

While a college degree is not mandatory, a 4-year degree in Game Design, Game Development, Computer Science OR a 2-year art degree will help get your foot in the door.



STARTING MEDIAN SALARY:

\$44,000

MID-CAREER MEDIAN SALARY:

\$65,000

INDUSTRY:

ENTERTAINMENT, MEDIA & SPORTS

FAST FACTS

THINGS TO DO WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE

- Go and download **Game Maker** (free trial version). You can make games without code and you can get a game up in an hour.
- **Make a game!** Familiarize yourself in how to make a functioning game with mechanics. If you don't have resources to create a video game, create any game (board game, card game).
- **Play videogames!** Notice the games that are engaging and ask yourself what makes them that good.
- **Get to know your industry!** Be a part of the video game community on the web or in your local community. Get their feedback on your game and see what other people are doing.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS CAREER

WWW. **GLADEO** .ORG



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