

LIVE YOUR PASSION

blazing trails for our country's fashion industry, notwithstanding the success and recognition, which came quite early in my career. I therefore need to continue what I'm doing and put our country on the map as a hub of creative fashion design talent, in its own right", he adds.



Asked about the future of the local fashion industry, McBright expressed his satisfaction with events such as the Windhoek Fashion Week, which he notes, create platforms to elevate the local industry to international standards. "We have the talent. More new designers are stepping up and it is up to those of us who are established household names to support them. I also wish for more male designers to enter this sector, which is somewhat still female-dominated", he explains. Talent is defined as a natural ability to be good at something, especially without being taught.

McBright Kavari is talented, but passionate and driven, as well. Having taken the local fashion design scene by storm, his passion for what he does and his drive to succeed are sure to elevate him to greater heights. His story teaches us that we all have talents; that our talents are God's gifts to us; and that what we do with our talents is our gift to the world. McBright has succeeded in making his talent, his purpose and his passion.

I was born to this. It's in my blood. It's like I look at the fabric and the design just comes to me as I sketch. It just happens. It's like magic



Scan here
to watch my
episode online

What does it take to become a **FASHION DESIGNER?**

Fashion designers create original clothing, accessories, and footwear. They sketch designs, select fabrics and patterns, and give instructions on how to make the products they designed. They typically study fashion trends and anticipate designs that will appeal to consumers. Deciding on a theme for a collection, they use computer-aided design programmes to create designs and visit manufacturers or trade shows to get fabric samples. They select embellishments, colors, or style for each garment or accessory and often work with other designers or team members to create prototype designs. They oversee the final production of their designs before showcasing them in fashion or trade shows.

Skills & Knowledge

High school courses in arts and drawing are considered useful. Fashion design requires heaps of creativity and good visual acuity for detailed work. Every designer's primary objective is to design clothing that will sell and appeal to a target market. Strong communication and customer service skills are essential.



Training

Training is offered at registered training institutions. Prospective designers must develop a portfolio, which showcases their best designs, so potential employers can judge their creativity. Designers typically gain their working experience by interning or working as assistant designers. They may start as sketching assistants under more experienced designers before advancing to independent designer, chief designer or creative director. Aspiring designers starting out in their careers spend a considerable amount of time marketing themselves and their products to attract

public attention. Established designers continue marketing themselves through advertisements in the print and online media.



Working Conditions

Fashion designers often work long, irregular hours and make a point to form strong, lasting connections with a variety of other fashion professionals, which include fabric manufacturers and trade show runners, who supply the fabric and embellishments designers need to see their designs come to life. Designers travel often, forming connections with creative directors for magazines and other publications so they can share their creations with a wider audience. Depending on the size and type of company, fashion designers may manage other professionals such as patternmakers, colorists, and sewers.

assistants under more experienced designers before advancing to independent designer, chief designer or creative director. Aspiring designers starting out in their careers spend a considerable amount of time marketing themselves and their products to attract public attention. Established designers continue marketing themselves through advertisements in the print and online media.

Job Prospects

Fashion designers work for design firms, boutiques, manufacturing companies, wholesalers, department stores, chain retailers, retail shops and boutiques. Some are also self-employed. In smaller companies the fashion designer will likely wear many different hats, acting as designer, patternmaker, and even colorist. Solo designers, if just starting out, will wear all hats until he or she establishes a name in the industry. Some self-employed fashion designers may earn many times the salary of the highest paid salaried designers.



You too can live your passion and qualify as a Fashion Designer. If you are creative, personable, detail-oriented and knowledgeable of fashion trends, you are a good candidate.

This advertorial is brought to you by the Namibia Training Authority under its 'Live Your Passion' advocacy campaign. To learn more about other technical and vocational career options, visit our website: www.nta.com.na

'Live Your Passion' is supported by the European Union



Scan here
to watch the
industry feature