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Careers in Buying

**Overview of Buying**

Retail success is based upon having the right product in the right store at the right price. The buying team plays a crucial role in this by developing and delivering a profitable product range, comprising items that customers want to buy at a price they are willing to pay. As a Buyer, youll evaluate available products and decide which can most profitably be offered to customers. Youll then negotiate the best possible price with suppliers.

Buyers in many organisations also have responsibility for quality control, in-store displays and brand management.

**Where to start**

Though exact titles may vary slightly from company to company, you will most likely start out as a Buyers Assistant, a Buyers Administrator or even a Buyers Admin Assistant working on a specific product area with a Buying Team.

**What's it like to be a Buyer's Admin Assistant?**

From the start you will be supporting the team by carrying out administrative duties as well as helping to set up and monitor the critical path for each product right from product development to delivery into the warehouse. You may also be required to gather information about the market, looking at competitor and customer activity in order to help influence the buying decisions.

**What you need to get a foot in the door**

* - Retail work Experience on a shop floor (can be part time)
* - Love for the product
* - Work experience within a buying department/ head office (not essential)
* - Fashion related degree

### Bu[**Postgraduate Certificate Fashion: Buying and Merchandising**](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/search_courses_details/university_of_the_arts_london_london_college_of_fashion/postgraduate_certificate_fashion__buying_and_merchandising/24123?t=srs&criteria.keyword=buying&criteria.qualificationTnrs=21366&criteria.qualificationTnrs=21369&criteria.subjectsOfStudy=2023&featured=110179&p=1&id=24123&rank=1)

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University of the Arts London - London College of Fashion -

The Postgraduate Certificate Fashion: Buying and Merchandising is a fashion business course with a vocational focus on buying and merchandising. It combines a post graduate level academic experience with the vocational realities of retailer buying and merchandising operations. The course covers a range of vocational knowledge and skills for students seeking a career in fashion buying and merchandising, and develops knowledge of both theoretical and practical issues relevant to current practice

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1. [**Fashion: Buying & Merchandising**](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/search_courses_details/regents_university_london/fashion__buying_merchandising/111099?t=srs&criteria.keyword=buying&criteria.qualificationTnrs=21366&criteria.qualificationTnrs=21369&criteria.subjectsOfStudy=2023&featured=110179&p=1&id=111099&rank=2)

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[Regent's University London](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/university_profile/regents_university_london/tnr/15586) -

This is an intensive programme which will provide you with the specialist knowledge and skills for a career in fashion buying or merchandising. You will be taught by staff with valuable academic and industry experience and will benefit from guest speakers from the industry

DIT Postgraduate Diploma in Fashion Buying and Management