

## ASK THE GENIE: HOW DO I CHOOSE BETWEEN SO MANY CAREER PATHS?



Dear Genie,

I can't figure out what career path to take. It seems to be taking so long to figure this out. There are so many things I am interested in doing that it's hard to choose one. But I realize to make a successful career of something, you need to focus on that one thing.

I have always been a creative person, and was going to study art but chose a criminology degree instead. Now I am working with Web pages. To use my artistic side more, I'm thinking of moving into [graphic design for the Web](#). Something I enjoy doing in my spare time is designing and making my own clothes. What do you think?

Sincerely,

Confused but Motivated

Dear Confused,

It sounds like you're in a good place. You're in an industry you like with an opportunity to do a job that interests you. That you want to [pursue Web design](#) doesn't mean you can't continue to have outside interests, such as designing your own clothes. Why not meet and talk to other clothing designers? Invite one to lunch, swap design ideas, continue to learn. You can do that and design websites, too.

Then see what happens. Maybe you'll hate Web design. Maybe you'll become an internationally celebrated Web designer. Or maybe you'll fall back into criminology. Keep yourself open to the opportunities that come your way and remember that there's no set path to follow. Sure, your career decisions will close certain doors even as they open new ones—that's the beauty of work. You never know where it might lead.

Many good wishes to you,

Genie