

Non-Traditional Employment for Women Career Assessment Survey

What is a Nontraditional Job?

Nontraditional jobs for women are **any jobs that we most often see men doing**; i.e. HVAC, solar installer, carpenter, roofer, wind-turbine maintenance, welder, computer repair technician, or auto mechanic. These jobs often offer higher wages and good benefits packages. Often - ***these types of jobs may entail Apprenticeship in a Trade Group*** (Union or non-Union).

Women can do these jobs, too! Would you be interested?

Circle: 1 if you like to do these activities, **2** if you are willing to do them (although not highly interested in doing them), and **3** if you don't like to do these activities at all.

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1) Work with your hands? | 1.....2.....3 |
| 2) Make repairs round the house? | 1.....2.....3 |
| 3) Fix outlets, radios, stereos? | 1.....2.....3 |
| 4) Work outdoors? | 1.....2.....3 |
| 5) Drive cars, vans, farm equipment? | 1.....2.....3 |
| 6) See concrete results from your work? | 1.....2.....3 |
| 7) Solve technical problems/puzzles? | 1.....2.....3 |
| 8) Work from a pattern, blueprint, or diagram to construct or make things? | 1.....2.....3 |
| 9) Paint, wallpaper, or patch holes in walls? | 1.....2.....3 |

Total your interest score: _____

If your total score is less than 20, a Non-Traditional job - may be for you!

Having the Requisites...

While many nontraditional jobs require skills, these skills can be gained in a wide variety of ways... For example, did you know:

- Following a sewing pattern employs the same skills as reading a blueprint that welders use, or reading a schematic drawing for building a house?
- A driver's license may be the first step toward an exciting career in the transportation field or heavy equipment operation?
- Following a recipe for a meal is similar to following instructions for repairing a copy machine or mixing cement?

The following activities utilize skills which are transferable to Non-Traditional Jobs:

(Check things you may have done that help toward success in nontraditional jobs)...

- _____ Work in a Non-Traditional job as a paid worker, volunteer, or as a hobby.
- _____ Receiving a H.S. diploma or GED.
- _____ Obtaining your driver's license.
- _____ Traveling and enjoy going from place to place.
- _____ Using tools to build or repair items in your home or apartment.
- _____ Working on your car or someone else's.
- _____ Handiwork such as knitting, embroidery or other crafts.
- _____ Following a sewing pattern.
- _____ Participating in regularly in a sport or worked out.
- _____ Planting and maintaining a successful garden.
- _____ Fixing a broken television, radio or computer.
- _____ Entering/completing a trade school program for a vocational skill.
- _____ Driving/fixing farm machinery.
- _____ Using power tools/built a piece of furniture.
- _____ Following a recipe.
- _____ Working independently, with little supervision.

Total number of answers checked: _____

If you have checked 3 or more of the above items, a Non-Traditional job may be for you. If you have checked 4 or more, you're already on your way! An assessment counselor or career coach, can provide you with more details on how other skills you may possess transfer to a Non-Traditional job.

Some women are unhappy doing work which other women enjoy. Do you dislike...

(Check those you do not like to do)...

- Working at a desk all day.
- Working with groups of children.
- Working with sick people in hospitals or nursing homes.
- Dealing regularly with the public in a store or restaurant.
- Helping others solve their personal or family problems.
- Working indoors.
- Working in one place all day.
- Answering questions and referring people to other sources of information.
- Completing written projects.
- Using the same equipment all the time.
- Work in which you rarely use your physical strength.
- Receiving lots of supervision and feedback on your work.

Total number of answers checked: _____

If you have checked 2 or more of these activities, a Non-Traditional job may be for you!

Nontraditional Jobs:

(Check those jobs which sound most interesting to you)...

- environmental technician
- computer repair technician
- carpenter
- construction contractor
- plumber
- irrigation technician
- surveyor
- household appliance repair
- carpet-flooring layer
- welder
- machinist
- auto mechanic
- electronics tech
- steam mechanic
- waste management tech

- machine tooler
- heavy equipment operator
- landscaper
- wastewater tech
- electrician
- engineer
- utility worker
- heating, ventilation &...
- refrigeration mechanic

Are there other nontraditional careers you are interested in?

I am: (Check those that are true for you)...

- A person who likes to take on challenges.
- In good physical health or fitness.
- Someone who needs to earn more than \$10.00/hour - to support yourself and your family.
- A person who needs to have access to health care and other benefits.
- Willing to explore new things, new places, new people.

Total number of answers checked: _____

If you have checked **2 or more** of these qualities, Non-Traditional employment may be for you!

When you hear or read about a woman - who has taken a job that is not traditional for women - what is your reaction...

Very Positive Somewhat Positive Somewhat Negative Very Negative

Briefly explain your answer: _____

We invite you to explore the many “Non-Traditional” career opportunities available to you. There are programs in the Austin area, which can offer:

- Non-Traditional career exploration
- Hands-on training & information about Apprenticeship opportunities
- Support from women experienced in nontraditional occupations (notably the Trades)

This self-assessment questionnaire was developed by Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW)

ACC “Women in Green Jobs” campaign - Go To: www.austincc.edu/green