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