



Nontraditional Career Options Survey

Name: _____ Date: _____

What is a Nontraditional Job?

Nontraditional jobs for women are any jobs that we most often see men doing; for example, carpenter, automotive technician, welder, printer, maintenance mechanic, machinist, computer repair technician, cable installer, and truck driver. These jobs usually offer higher wages, good benefits and career ladders. **Women can do these jobs, too! Would you be interested?** Complete the following survey to find out!

Section 1: Interests

Circle 1 if you like to do these activities, 2 if you are willing to do them although not very interested in them, and 3 if you don't like to do them.

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| 1) Work with your hands? | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 2) Make repairs around 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 or puzzles? | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 8) Work from a pattern, blueprint, or diagram to construct or make things? | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 9) Paint or wallpaper a room? | 1 | 2 | 3 |

Total your interest score: _____

If your total score is less than 15, a nontraditional job may be for you!

Nontraditional Career Options Survey (continued)

Section 2: Transferable Skills

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

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

- _____ Previously worked in a nontraditional job as a paid worker, as a volunteer, or as a hobby
- _____ Received a high school diploma, HSED or GED
- _____ Obtained your driver's license
- _____ Traveled and enjoyed going from place to place
- _____ Used tools to build or repair items in your home or fix furniture
- _____ Worked on your car or someone else's
- _____ Done handiwork such as knitting, embroidery or other crafts
- _____ Followed a pattern in sewing
- _____ Regularly participated in a sport or worked out
- _____ Planted and maintained a successful garden
- _____ Fixed a broken television, radio or computer
- _____ Entered and/or completed a trade school program for a vocational skill
- _____ Driven and/or fixed farm machinery
- _____ Followed a recipe
- _____ Worked independently, with little supervision

Total number of answers checked: _____

If you have checked 5 or more of the above items, a nontraditional job may be for you. Your assessment counselor can provide you with more details on how other skills you may possess transfer to a nontraditional job.

Nontraditional Career Options Survey (continued)

Section 3: Traditional Work

Some women are unhappy doing work that other women enjoy. Do you dislike: (Check those things you don't 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 4 or more of these activities, a nontraditional job may be for you.

Section 4: Nontraditional Jobs

Check the jobs that sound most interesting to you:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> computer repair technician | <input type="checkbox"/> carpenter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> plumber | <input type="checkbox"/> hardware store clerk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cable installer | <input type="checkbox"/> household appliance repairer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bricklayer | <input type="checkbox"/> welder |
| <input type="checkbox"/> forklift driver | <input type="checkbox"/> machinist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> automotive technician | <input type="checkbox"/> cabinet maker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> printer | <input type="checkbox"/> boiler mechanic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> truck driver | <input type="checkbox"/> tool and die maker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> heavy equipment operator | <input type="checkbox"/> landscaper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cab driver | <input type="checkbox"/> electrician |
| <input type="checkbox"/> painter | <input type="checkbox"/> environmental technician |
| <input type="checkbox"/> utility worker | <input type="checkbox"/> firefighter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> police officer | <input type="checkbox"/> pilot |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lumber yard worker | <input type="checkbox"/> animal lab technician |
| <input type="checkbox"/> surveyor | <input type="checkbox"/> drafter |

Total number of jobs checked: _____

Nontraditional Career Options Survey (continued)

Section 5: Describe Yourself

Check the statements below that are true for you.

- _____ I like to take on challenges.
- _____ I am in good physical health or fitness.
- _____ I am a person who needs to earn more than \$7.00 per hour to support my family and myself.
- _____ I need to have access to health care and other benefits.
- _____ I need to find on-the-job training opportunities because I cannot go to school for more education right now.
- _____ I am willing to explore new things, new places, and new people.

Section 6: More Information

1. When you hear or read about a woman who works in a job that is not traditional for women, what is your reaction?

Very Positive ____ Somewhat Positive ____ Somewhat Negative ____ Very Negative ____

Briefly explain your answer.

2. If you think a nontraditional job might be for you, what are your two strongest reasons for wanting to enter a nontraditional job?
3. What are your two greatest concerns about entering a nontraditional job?

We invite you to explore the many nontraditional career opportunities available to you.

4. Are you interested in learning more about nontraditional jobs and careers?

Yes No If yes, please fill in the information requested below. (please print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Source: WOW, Washington, D.C.