UX
Design
MASTERY

Is UX Design
a good fit
for you?

Free checklist of
most common personality traits
+ soft skills + UX job activities

Personality traits

☐ **Are you a problem solver?**

UX designers, by their very nature solve problems and seek solutions that creatively align user needs and business goals. A sound solution to a design problem identifies the nature and context of use, whilst taking into account the limitations and constraints in which the resulting product/application will be used. Fortunately everyone is a problem solver whether they know it or not. We solve big and small problems everyday as we go about our lives. The goal for a UX designer is to turn problem solving into a habit so that they feel more prepared and assured when they encounter similar design problems in the future.

☐ **Do you have an aptitude for learning?**

This aptitude speaks to the natural desire for learning and need for proficiency in the design discipline. In a field as broad and cross-disciplinary as User Experience, continual learning and upskilling is very necessary. UX designers wear a lot of hats in the workplace and have to master a range of skills. The aptitude for learning is probably the most important over the course of a UX career than any specific skill set or technical tool.

☐ **Are you good communicator?**

Being a good communicator is absolutely critical to success in a UX design role. In user testing, one needs to able to make participants feel comfortable so they are more willing to share their feedback. In a team, one needs the ability to work with people, convince them and deal with internal politics. With client, one needs to be able to communicate a coherent argument and rationale for the design approach or strategy to several different stakeholders.

☐ **Are you a great listener?**

This skill is not only important for advancing your career but building meaningful relationships. Good listening means being able to read and be aware of both the verbal and no-verbal messages. A UX role demands sound understanding of the problem being solved and effective communication between the team and with key stakeholders. Good listening means less mistakes and better projects results. It is not surprising therefore that it is one of the most important communication skills to master.

☐ **Are you analytical?**

A UX designer who is naturally analytically inclined will be able to justify every design decision based on best practices and data. This not only means an affinity for data driven design and metrics but the ability to also draw conclusions and themes from qualitative user feedback. Quantitative and qualitative data is increasingly becoming a key ingredient in usability and user-experience work.

☐ Do you pay close attention to detail?

They say design is in the details but detailed work is not easy. It takes reverts, reviews and concentration. Detail-oriented strengths give you the ability to work better, to be more effective and to minimize the risk of making major mistakes. Employers tend to look for this from their employees because this will give accurate and good results for the tasks given to them. Some people natural have a higher attention to detail but through practice one can also develop a very good eye for good design.

☐ Do you have empathy for users?

This is the experience of understanding another person's condition from their perspective. A UX designer must be able to place themselves in the users' shoes and feel what they are feeling when using a product or service. This is important for the project as the UX designer will act as an advocate for the user's needs when they are overlooked by the rest of the team.

☐ Do you have big picture thinking?

A core trait that every UX designer should have is big picture thinking. One needs to be able to holistically understand strategy, business requirements; users' needs and manage their impact on project delivery. Most big picture thinkers will not get bogged down in the details of executing the plans but still pay attention to the detail. A UX designer hence usually works with different team members during the course a project timeline and does not work solely within one departmental silo.

To learn how to work on all these traits go to:
http://uxdesignmastery.com/is-ux-design-a-good-fit-for-you-8-personality-traits-you-must-have/

Most common soft skills

☐ **Writing or editing reports, content**

☐ **Public speaking**

☐ **Competitive analysis**

☐ **Group facilitation**

☐ **Project management**

☐ **Analytics / data analysis**

☐ **Data visualization**

☐ **Business analysis**

Most common job activities

☐ **Presenting solutions/concepts**

☐ **Persuading others**

☐ **Analyzing task or activities**

☐ **Building prototype and wireframes**

☐ **Collaborating with subject matter experts**

☐ **Gathering requirements**

☐ **Specifying interaction design**

☐ **Conducting in-person usability study**

☐ **Making storyboards, user journeys and IA**

☐ **Conducting design review/heuristic evaluation**

☐ **Review data from analytics**