What Can I Do With a Major in…?  
Music

OVERVIEW

Throughout history, music has been an important element in most cultures, a rich and diverse experience that is used in many ways. Within the broad field of music, there are many areas of specialization. A concentration in music, with its emphasis on performance, analysis, and critical interpretation provides a foundation for careers in education, business, communications, and the arts. While music is a performing art, few individuals are able to support themselves as full-time musicians. Many music majors elect to combine performing with jobs that allow them to be closely related to music in the workplace. Some music majors continue their education in a graduate or professional school program. Listed below are some characteristic skills developed by music majors as well as representative occupations of graduates with a music degree.

RELATED CAREERS

Acoustical Consultant  
Accompanist  
Architectural Acoustic Monitor  
Artist and Repertoire (A&R)  
Artist/Vocalist  
Arts Administrator/Manager  
Band Director  
Booking Agent  
Bow Restorer  
Business Manager  
Church Music Director  
City Cultural Events Planner  
Clergy  
Clinician  
Community Development  
Composer  
Conductor  
Concert Promoter  
Copyright Specialist  
Copywriter  
Cruise Director  
Disc Jockey  
Editor  
Educator  
Educational Coordinator  
Engineer/Mixer  
Ethnomusicologist  
Event Music Consultant  
Film Music Editor  
House/Stage Manager  
Instrument/Equipment Salesperson  
Instrument Service Specialist  
Journalist  
Lyricist  
Marketing and Community Relations Manager  
Manufacturers Representative  
Marching Band Director  
Marching Drill Creator  
Musicologist  
Music Business Attorney  
Music Copyist  
Music Critic  
Music Editor  
Music Librarian  
Music Minister  
Music Publishing Specialist  
Music Professor  
Music Promoter  
Music Reporter  
Music Software Programmer  
Music Store Manager  
Music Stringer  
Music Teacher  
Music Therapist  
Musical Arranger  
Operations and Membership Coordinator  
Orchestra Conductor  
Orchestra Librarian  
Orchestra Manager  
Percussionist  
Performer  
Piano Technician/Tuner  
Private Tutor  
Producer  
Product Manager  
Program Director  
Promoter/Booking Agent  
Public Events Specialist  
Public Relations Director  
Publicist  
Recording Technician  
Recreation Director  
Road Manager  
Royalties Broadcast Monitor  
Sales Representative  
Singer  
Sound Engineer  
Sound Technician  
Staff Publicist  
Stage Director  
Studio Musician  
Synthesizer Specialist  
Talent Agent  
Technical Writer  
Tour Manager/Coordinator  
Uniform Designer  
Union Contractor  
Voice Teacher
**Major Skills**

- Creating and performing music
- Writing and speaking effectively
- Gathering and analyzing information
- Informing, explaining
- Interpreting symbols and images
- Ability to give and accept criticism
- Examining evidence Group dynamics
- Sensitivity to and appreciation of diverse musical styles
- Conveying complex information
- Hearing and recognizing tonal and harmonic balance, rhythm, and tempo
- Organizing information/materials
- Doing detailed and accurate work
- Describing impressions about music
- Working with primary sources
- Teaching a skill, concept, or principle
- Directing a performance
- Presenting theories/ideas
- Perceiving patterns/structures
- Program planning
- Considering historical perspectives

**RELATED WEB SITES**

- Music Directors - Tasks Performed & Skills Required (O*NET) [http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/27-2041.01](http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/27-2041.01)
- Composers - Tasks Performed & Skills Required (O*NET) [http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/27-2041.03](http://online.onetcenter.org/link/summary/27-2041.03)

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- American Music Therapy Association [http://www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org)
- Music Teachers National Association [http://www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org)
- Chorus America [http://www.chorusamerica.org](http://www.chorusamerica.org)
- Texas Music Educators Association [www.tmea.org](http://www.tmea.org)
- Texas Bandmasters Assoc. [http://www.texasbandmasters.org](http://www.texasbandmasters.org)