

Roller Coaster Designer

Salary: \$80,000 per Year

Designing a roller coaster takes a lot of thought and dedication. Roller Coaster Designers work together to create a ride that is the best for its' riders. It can be a small roller coaster for kids with slow speed and gentle turns/drops, or a coaster designed for pure thrill with a launch straight up a hill and a drop straight down. Designers need to make sure that the coaster serves its function and is well designed. Some examples of people who design roller coasters are the drafters, who draft different components of the ride, all the way up to a lead designer, who would be the one to be the leader of the design of a roller coaster.

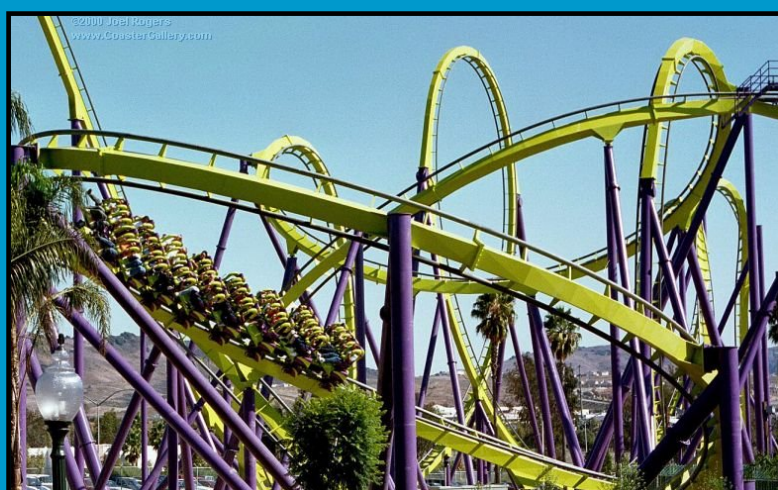


I've always been interested in roller coasters and how they are designed and built. I love riding roller coasters and think of how certain aspects were designed whenever I see them. Roller Coaster designs are always changing and new ideas are coming out all the time. I think about how I could be the one to design a new coaster that everyone would love to ride. It also pays well.

There isn't any special education for designing roller coasters. Mechanical Engineers, Automotive Engineers, and other designers all qualify to become roller coaster designers. Taking Mechanical Design in high school is the first step, and then taking engineering courses in college are the next step. After that, you would start looking at different Roller Coaster design companies and see if any would hire at whatever qualifications you have.

Because Mechanical Engineers make great roller coaster designers, Mechanical Design I seems like the perfect class to take as the first step towards becoming a roller coaster designer. In this class we begin to start designing mechanically, learning skills that would be very helpful if one chose to become a roller coaster designer.

Going to amusement parks is a pastime around the world and is enjoyed by millions. Whether you like small, gentle rides, or huge thrill rides, going to an amusement park is considered by many to be one of the most fun things to do. For Roller Coaster Designers to be able to come up with new



designs and coasters means that the people who go to amusement parks won't get bored and will continue to enjoy the new rides that are introduced at amusement parks. Without new designs, the community will become unhappy with the amusement parks and won't want to go to them anymore.

By Jacob Bloom, 9/7/12