



CAREERS IN RETAIL: FIND YOUR FIT IN A FAST-MOVING INDUSTRY

A career in retail can take you far beyond the sales floor. Whether you're drawn to management, buying, fashion, logistics, or online merchandising, the retail world offers opportunities for every skill set — creative, analytical, and customer-focused alike.

If you'd like help mapping out your path, schedule an appointment with your Career Development Coach through Handshake.

EXPLORE RETAIL CAREER PATHS

- **Retail Management** – Lead store teams, drive operations, and deliver great customer experiences.
- **Buying & Merchandising** – Decide which products hit the shelves and when.
- **Visual Merchandising & Marketing** – Design displays and campaigns that tell a brand story.
- **Logistics & Supply Chain** – Oversee product flow from supplier to store to customer.
- **E-commerce & Data Analytics** – Shape digital storefronts, manage inventory, and interpret buying trends.

JOB SEARCH TOOLS

- [LinkedIn](#) – Network, follow major retailers, and apply directly for roles.
- [StyleCareers](#) – Fashion and luxury retail internships and jobs.
- [Indeed](#) – General job board with strong retail and management postings.
- [Glassdoor](#) – Company reviews and salary insights.
- [National Retail Federation](#) – Industry trends, training programs, and job listings.

FIND THE RIGHT EMPLOYER

Think about what matters most — company culture, brand values, location, flexibility, or growth potential. Some of the largest U.S. retail employers include:

Belk, Nordstrom, Kohl's, Macy's, JCPenney, Dick's Sporting Goods, Walmart, Target, Best Buy, Amazon, Costco, Home Depot, Lowe's, CVS, Apple, Dollar General, The Gap, J.Crew, Urban Outfitters, and Wegmans.

Look for opportunities at brands you already admire or frequent — familiarity can give you a strong start.

BUILD EXPERIENCE

- **Get hands-on:** Retail internships and part-time work build customer service, communication, and problem-solving skills employers value.
- **Go digital:** E-commerce, data, and logistics are shaping the future of retail — learn to navigate both in-store and online experiences.
- **Join professional networks:** Connect with peers through LinkedIn or organizations like the National Retail Federation.

CAREER TIPS

- Use Glassdoor or Salary.com to research pay by role and region.
- Follow your favorite companies on social media — many announce openings directly there.
- Remember: customer experience skills transfer across nearly every industry.