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Almost exclusively, Adobe Dreamweaver is the first base for all web designers. It's reputed to be the most utilised web-development platform globally.

To facilitate Dreamweaver commercially as a web designer, a thorough comprehension of the whole Adobe Web Creative Suite (which includes Flash and Action Script) is highly recommended. With this knowledge, you could subsequently become an ACP (Adobe Certified Professional) or an ACE (Adobe Certified Expert).

To establish yourself as a full web professional however, there are other things to consider. You'll be required to have knowledge of some programming essentials like PHP, HTML, and MySQL. A working knowledge of E-Commerce and SEO (Search Engine Optimisation) will give your CV some extra credibility and make you more employable.

Don't put too much store, as a lot of students can, on the training course itself. You're not training for the sake of training; you should be geared towards the actual job at the end of it. You need to remain focused on where you want to go.

It's unfortunate, but thousands of new students kick-off study that often sounds amazing in the prospectus, but which provides the end-result of a job that is of no interest at all. Try talking to typical university students for examples.

It's well worth a long chat to see the expectations of your industry. Which precise certifications you'll be required to have and how you'll build your experience level. It's also worth spending time assessing how far you'd like to go as it will control your selection of exams.

Sense dictates that you seek advice from an industry professional before embarking on a particular learning program, so you can be sure that the chosen route will give you the skills for the job being sought.

Many trainers provide mainly work-books and reference manuals. Learning like this is dull and repetitive and not ideal for studying effectively.

Many studies have proved that long term memory is improved when we receive multi-sensorial input, and we get practically involved in what we're studying.

Study programs now come via DVD-ROM discs, where your computer becomes the centre of your learning. Using video-streaming, you will be able to see the instructor presenting exactly how to perform the required skill, with some practice time to follow - in a virtual lab environment.

All companies should willingly take you through a few samples of the type of training materials they provide. You should hope for instructor-led videos and interactive areas to practice in.

Purely on-line training should be avoided. You want physical CD/DVD ROM course materials where obtainable, as you need to be able to use them whenever it's convenient for you - you don't want to be reliant on your internet connection always being 'up' and available.

An effective training course package will also offer accredited exam simulation and preparation packages.

Avoid relying on unauthorised exam preparation systems. Their phraseology is often somewhat different - and this leads to huge confusion when the proper exam time arrives.

Simulations and practice exams are enormously valuable for confidence building - then when the time comes for you to take your actual exams, you don't get phased.

Can job security truly exist anywhere now? In a marketplace like the UK, with industry changing its mind whenever it suits, there doesn't seem much chance.

In actuality, security now only emerges through a swiftly increasing market, driven forward by work-skills shortages. It's this shortage that creates just the right conditions for a higher level of market-security - definitely a more pleasing situation.

The computer industry skills deficit throughout the UK is standing at just over twenty six percent, as reported by a recent e-Skills survey. Essentially, we only have the national capacity to fill 3 out of every 4 jobs in the computer industry.

This distressing notion underpins the validity and need for more commercially trained computer professionals across the country.

Undoubtedly, now, more than ever, really is a fabulous time to retrain into the IT industry.

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