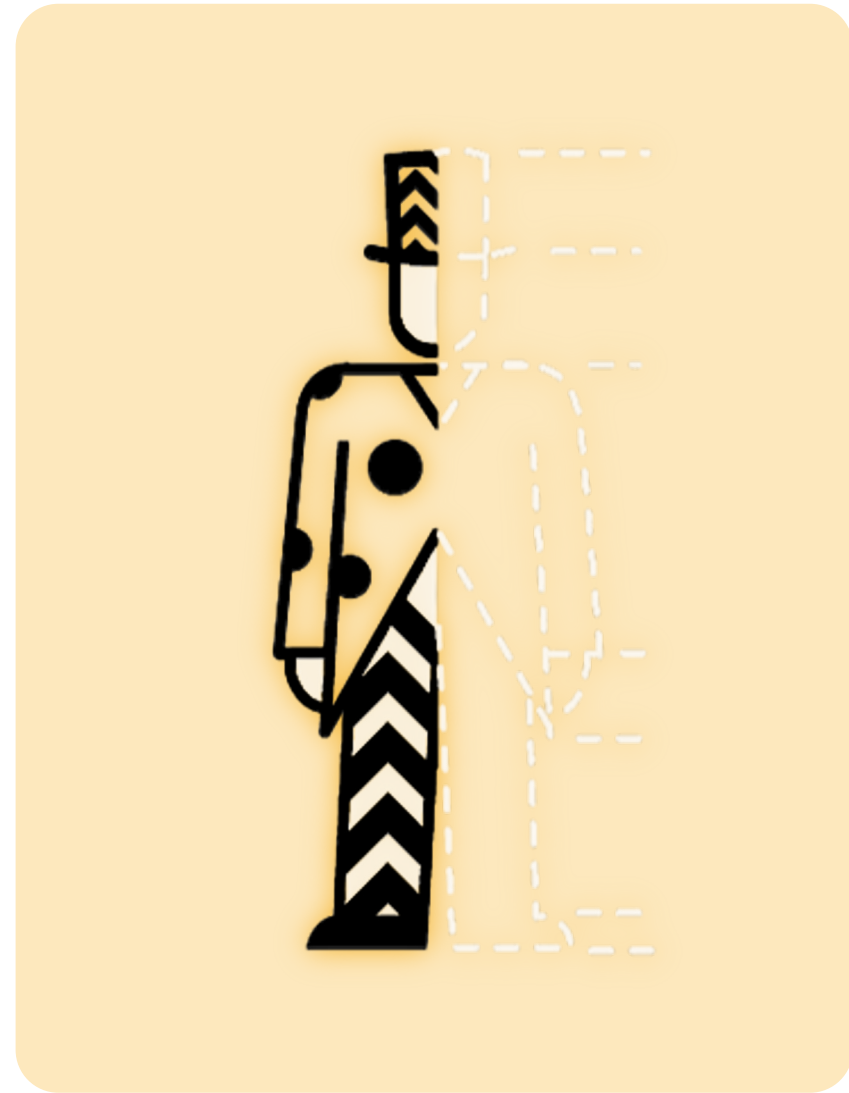


Costume designer



AI overview

AI is starting to reshape the role of costume designers by providing tools that streamline design processes and improve workflow efficiency. These tools could assist with design generation, fabric selection, continuity, and resource management, making it easier to experiment with styles and improve creative output. Additionally, AI could help manage large costume inventories, predict costs, and track wardrobe usage across scenes, allowing designers to focus on creative decisions.

To prepare for the future, costume designers could focus on learning AI tools for design visualisation, inventory management, and script analysis, enabling them to improve workflows, stay competitive, and embrace new technology in their work.

How can I prepare for the future?

As technologies develop, keeping up to date with the latest opportunities can be really beneficial.

These are some areas that costume designers may need to understand in the future.

Future Tech	Description	Resources for learning
AI-Driven Design Generation	AI tools that create initial sketches based on character descriptions, allowing designers to visualise and adjust costume concepts faster.	Check out ScreenSkills Training, events and opportunities page for up to date courses on digital design; LinkedIn Learning offers tutorials on AI in creative fields.
Summarising tools for budgeting and planning	Quick summaries and overviews of a script or other content highlighting lists and details of which costumes might be needed, and approximations of budgets based on context and requirements of each costume	Online text based AI tools.
AI Image Generation	AI tools that take videos, images or photos of existing costumes and visualise changes to material, shape and other impacts quickly.	Online AI image generation tools.
Self-Hosted AI for Confidentiality	AI models that can be hosted locally, allowing designers to use AI securely without sharing sensitive design data over the internet.	GitHub resources on self-hosting; YouTube guides on setting up AI models for private use.
Fabric and Material Analysis	AI tools that suggest fabrics based on character requirements and budget, supporting quality and cost-effective choices.	Check out ScreenSkills Training, events and opportunities page for up to date courses; Skillshare offers tutorials on AI in material analysis.
Inventory and Cost Management	AI that tracks costume usage and predicts costs, supporting efficient wardrobe management.	Check out ScreenSkills Training, events and opportunities page for up to date courses on production budgeting; LinkedIn Learning resources for AI in cost management.
Audience Engagement Insights	AI systems that analyse costume impact on audiences, helping designers align with viewer expectations and trends.	Check out ScreenSkills Training, events and opportunities page for up to date courses; online courses on Skillshare for AI-driven audience analysis.

What AI tools can I use right now? – Efficiency & workflow opportunities

Pre-production tools

Design tools: AI tools could help visualise, animate, and modify initial design sketches or merge designs, assisting designers in experimenting with various styles quickly.

Script analysis: AI tools could quickly review and summarise a script and offer an outline list of quantities and types of costumes needed, to assist with planning and organisation.

Self-hosted AI models for data privacy: For sensitive designs, AI can be run locally on a computer, ensuring creative data remains confidential while benefiting from AI-driven insights.

Production

Material and fabric analysis: AI could suggest fabrics based on character requirements, historical accuracy, and scene needs, while considering cost and durability.

Cost estimation and inventory tracking: AI tools could predict wardrobe expenses and track costume inventory in real time, making it easier to manage costs and resources during production.

Confidential and custom AI models

Digital archiving and documentation: AI could automate the process of digitising costume records and creating searchable archives, making it easier to reference or reuse costumes in future productions.

Audience feedback analysis: AI systems could assess audience reactions to costumes, providing valuable insights for designers to align with viewer expectations and trends.