

IS STRIPPING THE RIGHT CAREER FOR ME?

Quite often, I get asked in DMs whether or not someone is cut out for stripping. They see the money counts being posted on YouTube or TikTok and get excited about their potential earnings. They may be struggling to make ends meet at their 9-5, facing childcare issues while trying to work a “civilian” aka non-stripper job, or have felt like they just fit in with the industry because they have confidence in their looks or ability to talk to men.

While I can't always determine whether someone is meant to be part of the industry based off a few DMs, I wanted to share some of my thoughts about the different things we deal with and let you decide for yourself if this is something you want to get into. While I can share my opinions from time to time, this is a very individual choice and not something someone else can truly decide for you. If you are driven and determined, very little can stop you from doing what you want to do.

However, let me shed some light on the reality, and let you know there are some downsides. I will not lie and say stripping is super glamorous all the time. There will be days where very few customers come in and you will go home with less than you deserve. There will be occasions where you will need to be physically defensive during your dances or when dealing with customers on the sales floor. Some men and women can be predatory and push your boundaries, or simply not understand the concept of consent, especially when they're drunk. You will need to have very strong boundaries and enforce them with everyone, and often. We all have bad days now and then, although they tend to decrease drastically with experience and mindset/sales training. Your body will hurt sometimes, especially if you are brand new and are not used to lots of physical activity, although you will get used to it in time. There will be knee bruises.

Stripping isn't profitable without the confidence to become an ever-evolving salesperson, whether you are working topless, full nude or bikini only. It's okay if you're nervous just starting out in a new profession. We all get butterflies and “new girl jitters” and sometimes those little surges of adrenaline can pop up again and again on busy nights and when approaching customers you don't want to blow the sale with. The process of pushing past that can be uncomfortable. You'll probably fall down sometimes and say goofy things to people throughout your career.

It will be important to be vigilant about your safety, and your surroundings when you leave the club. Sex workers are often targeted by predatory types, much like civilian women and femmes, but the police care less about us than the rest of society. Your new mode of operation will include anonymity, stealth and awareness.

And then there is the social stigma we carry with us everywhere as sex workers. Yes, stripping is sex work. Most of society sees us all as “whores”, whether we provide full service sex work or not. This may affect your relationships with friends, family, lovers and make it challenging to rent property or fill in resume gaps. You either need to develop a double life cover story for everyone or be “out” to people and have those hard conversations with potentially disapproving loved ones. You may lose whorephobic people in your life. I don't see this as a loss, personally, but everyone feels differently.

You will most likely be a 1099 independent contractor, unless your club offers payroll and puts you on the books as an employee. You'll be responsible for saving your own money for taxes and keeping track of your income and expenses. The government does not do this for you. The benefit of this is

that you are more in control and you are essentially running your own small business. You can take advantage of certain retirement accounts for self employed people and you can shop for your own health insurance plans. It does take some financial literacy to learn how to properly conduct your own business.

I know a lot of this sounds like a bummer, but I promise that stripping is also super wonderful! There is so much freedom with this job. You can generally come and go as you please and create your own schedule, and no having to ask for “time off” from a 9-5 employer. Take long ass vacations or work every single day the club is open, if you want to. You don’t have to treat every customer as if they are in the right. You can walk away from people who annoy you and pick and choose who you want to dance for and how much contact you want to allow. Your body – your rules.

Are you a mom of young kids, perhaps a single mom? You get to work less hours while you make more money than you likely would at a “vanilla job” and also spend more time with your children. If you have to pay for childcare, you’ll most likely have to pay for less days of childcare than if you paid for a full week.

Are you a night owl and hate getting up early? Stripping is wonderful for nocturnal people. You can wake up at whatever time in the afternoon you want to and still have plenty of time to get ready for the club. And even if you want to work during the day, you can almost always find a decent day shift in any city. A lot of clubs will let you work a split shift, even.

Do you love traveling? Stripping is a skill you can take just about anywhere in the world. Many clubs are open to traveling dancers and once you become comfortable with the job itself, there’s nothing that says you can’t tour around the country booking yourself at different cities. You’ll get to meet all kinds of people and learn so much about the world and yourself in the process.

Ever wanted a job where you get paid really well to simultaneously exercise and look sexy? This is the one! I’m always in great shape just doing what I do at work. When I’ve taken breaks and then came back, I tone up almost immediately. You will find strength, endurance and stamina come very quickly. You will be burning calories like crazy and doing it in 7 inch heels and fake eyelashes.

Comparatively speaking, it’s also pretty easy to get hired at a strip club, compared to other types of jobs where you have to bring a resume, cover letter and dress, speak and act a certain way to maybe get hired. You don’t need an education or experience to be a stripper, like jobs that require you to go to college first, which probably leads to the stereotype about us being unintelligent. In fact, I think there’s nothing smarter than realizing where the money is and going after it. Many of us are making big financial moves with our stripper money and not having to pay back student loan debt. This community is investing, saving and acquiring assets and years of sales experience.

Besides an amazing crash course in in-person, high-pressure sales, stripping has given me so many skills I would never have acquired anywhere else. I’m 1000x more confident in general, I have much better boundaries with everyone in my life, I am less socially anxious (I used to be an incredibly shy and socially awkward child! Lol). I feel like if I can walk up to people practically naked and sell them things, I can do anything. It’s given me the courage and determination to branch out into other avenues of entrepreneurship.

Let me not forget about The Sisterhood! I’ve made friends in the beginning of my now 16 years long career that I still have today. I’ve learned so much from my coworkers in places I’ve lived and all

around the world, and I know I have added value to the lives of others in the industry too. I love that we have such a tightknit community that is unlike any other. We look out for each other, share intimate things with one another that no one else can fully understand, and we become closer to each other because of it. If you're looking for some truly supportive women and femmes and be proud to call coworkers, stripping has that in spades.

With stripping, you can walk in off the street, be friendly and relatively attractive and make hundreds or thousands of dollars a day. Of course, you'll want to be educated so you struggle a lot less than you normally would. Your appearance does matter to some degree, but your mindset and sales strategies are paramount to everything else.

I struggled for a long time before reaching this realization and ultimately getting the sales skills and cultivating the mindset I needed, and I don't want you to have to go through that same process. I want you to be fully prepared to make the most out of this industry, whether you do it for 1 year or 20 years. I want you to reach your goals quickly and move from timid babystripper to top earner in far less time. I am always available for conversations with aspiring strippers who want to do this job well and do it safely. If this sounds like you, send an email to alexathehousemom@gmail.com and we can get started on strategizing a plan for you to get some serious cash.