

The People Behind Perfumes

Undoubtedly, we have all had the experience of walking in a mall and being hit with a wall of a powerfully overwhelming 1. (scant , scent , skint); usually emanating from a small kiosk. Regardless of whether the odour is pleasantly enticing or absolutely revolting to you, how often 2. (have , was , had) you stopped to consider its origins? Not only is that perfume probably the result of years of intense labour and research, but it is also 3. (much , more , many) than likely the culmination of someone's artistic vision, all packaged in an attractive bottle.

The person behind this vision is a perfumer, and their pursuit for the perfect scent is never-ending. It starts with a passion, and a good "nose". Most perfumers grow up 4. (to enjoy , enjoyed , enjoying) different smells, from fresh cut grass to a salty sea breeze. This passion then matures and becomes academic, resulting in hours of chemistry classes and experiments in laboratories. In the end, perfumers leave university with the knowledge 5. (to be able to , to use , in order) turn their early passion for smells into a serious and lucrative career.

However, creating new perfumes is not an exact science, and 6. (rare , rarely , rarity) do perfumers produce a perfect smell on their first attempt. Often, a lot of time and research results in a failed attempt 7. (to make , made , making) a new fragrance. That is why besides education and natural talent, becoming a successful perfumer requires patience. It can take over 500 attempts to find the right "notes", or combination of scents, that 8. (where , when , what) blended result in the perfect synthesis of smells. Only then can the perfume become both a simple commercial product and a complex work of art.