

## CATHERINE WILKS



**Job:** Practice Area Lead for Data & Analytics

**Company:** Slalom

I'm a technology consultant who helps clients get the best from their data.

Driven

Inquisitive

Energetic

**The skills I use most in my job...**Organisational skills - I have a lot to do so need to ensure I'm organised and can juggle priorities

- People skills - I work with clients and in teams and sometimes have to deliver difficult messages
- Leadership - I lead a team and need to get the best from people
- Varied thinking - I need to think strategically as well as be 'in the detail' to solve issues
- Storytelling - Being good at data is all about how you tell the story to the audience

**The most interesting thing I've worked on in my career so far...**I've worked on lots of interesting projects in my time. One of the most interesting was travelling to Russia and Ukraine to implement a data quality solution for an insurer. Another interesting project was the forensic analysis of hospital waiting list statistics, to see if they had been manipulated.

**What inspired me into digital and tech...** I enjoyed science and maths at school but found that academia was too 'in the detail' for me. I found that a career as a data consultant enabled me to use both my people and numerate skills, and I enjoy the fact that the analysis I do makes a difference to people's lives.

**My educational background is...** I have a Masters and PhD in Theoretical Particle Physics. Now I keep my professional skills up to date through online learning, attending conferences and working on projects in areas that are new to me.

**What advice I'd give to girls thinking about a career in digital and tech...** You don't need to be really techie to succeed in a tech career; it's a great career for a woman.