Goskills

Switching Things Up: How to Break Into a Career in Tech

GoSkills online course syllabus

Skill level
Beginner

Lessons
29

Pre-requisites
No prior experience needed

Video duration
1h 38m

Estimated study time
1h 38m

Instructor
Forrest Johnson

Introduction

1 Transitioning into tech
Switching to a career in tech can be intimidating and stressful.

Evaluating Your Next Path

2 Evaluate your current path
Before you begin your career pivot into the tech industry, it's important that you take time to evaluate where you are at in your career path.

3 Choosing your ideal work
In order to figure out what sort of job you want to pivot to next, you need to reflect on what sort of work you want to do and how to find a niche that will align with your experience.

4 Evaluating the timelines
Take time to reflect on your needs as a person, not just as a candidate.

Build Your Knowledge

5 Learning the language
The language of the tech world is both vast and niche.

6 Finding your entry point
Your job research should culminate in recognizing what job titles match your qualifications and interests.

7 Researching companies
The pool of tech is more like an ocean once you start to wade in.

Build Your Experience

8 Pinpoint career needs

You need to be able to show that you are qualified, and that doesn't always come with a hefty price tag or more degrees.

9 Build your growth

A great way to get started in your transition is to start growing where you are at.

Building Your Profile

10 Establish your brand

Find your niche, establish your presence, and begin connecting with people.

11 Optimize your LinkedIn profile

Make sure you can be found in searches!

12 Conduct informational interviews

Informational interviews are a great way to build your network through intentional conversations.

Prepping Your Materials

13 Your elevator pitch

The elevator pitch is all about your main qualities and interests, what you have accomplished, and where your story is going next.

14 Repackaging skills and experience

It is not enough to tell your story, it also has to appeal to a new "genre" of reader (aka, a new industry).

15 Resume do's and don'ts

Recruiters look at hundreds of resumes for each position they are hiring for and it is important to stand out on the written page.

16 Your cover letter story

Using research and informational interviews, you should have an understanding of how your skills can be repackaged into the language of the employer.

Reaching out to Recruiters and Hiring Managers

17 Reaching out

Wait until your materials are ready and you've already applied for the role.

The Tech Interview

18 Preparing your materials

It is important to understand that this interview is not just about you, it is about what connects you to the company and how you will positively contribute.

19 Valuable resources

Much of the tech industry relies on demonstrable success with the skills required for the job, especially in developer roles.

20 Get your tech talk ready

This lesson will help you prepare a strategy to verbally communicate to others how you have learned toolings, programs, or coding languages required for your dream job.

21 The screening call

Many job searchers do not get a peek into the hiring process before they go on the job hunt; so it is impossible to know the difference between an interview and a screening call.

22 Interviewing with the hiring manager

The hiring manager interview is the most focused interview.

23 Engaging with the hiring manager

There is an added pressure to stand out when interviewing.

Staying Organized in the Job Search

24 Organizing for success

Applying for dozens, or even hundreds of jobs, can create a blur of information and a slur of edited and re-edited documents.

25 Tracking & celebrating wins

Job searching can be difficult and take a toll on one's fervor and mental health.

Common Mistakes

26 Saying no to yourself

Skills and requirements are always a list of potential elements that would be beneficial in the job.

27 Being too formal

Everyone who is hiring is a human too, so people really remember when you are able to connect with them in a genuine way.

28 Quantity over quality

One of the easiest ways to burn out is by rushing through job posting after job posting and sending out materials without the time or effort to research.

Conclusion

29 Begin your journey

Changing careers can be a daunting task, and changing into a career in tech can be even more daunting.

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