

Earn Money Doing What You Love!

10 Steps to the Job or Career of Your Dreams

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The economy is changing. Are you ready for it?

The days of 9-5 jobs are going by way of the dinosaur...they are becoming extinct. The software company, Intuit, conducted a study in 2015. That study says that by 2020, more than 40% of the American workforce, or 60 million people, will be freelancers, contractors, and temp workers.

Small and personal businesses in the U. S. alone are on the rise. Again, according to Intuit, by 2022, there will be an increase of more than 7 million such businesses. Full time, full benefit jobs will be harder to find.

The economy will become increasingly global. People will be working from home and from spaces of their choosing.

We experienced the Industrial Revolution and the Information Age. We are now entering what some are referring to as the Entrepreneurial Economy. Individuals will be

seeking to provide solutions to new problems. Some of those problems haven't even been identified yet.

In the future, fewer of us will trade time for a paycheck paid by an employer who manipulates our salaries. We will depend less upon our employer for benefits. Instead, we will work for ourselves, and we will pay ourselves from the profits of our efforts. We will also provide our own benefits.

To survive in this emerging economic era, you must ask yourself certain questions. You must answer these questions with laser focus and clarity.

Take a look at the questions below and answer them to the best of your ability.

Consider what you want to do with your future. Are you ready for a change? Do you know what that change would look like if you went for it?

1) The first question to consider is, **what do you want?** Do you have **focus** and **clarity** about what you want your future career and your life to look like? Do you know what you would be happy doing in a new career?

2) Assess your current skills. (Your resume will reflect them.) Consider all your previous jobs. Create a comprehensive list of the skills you developed in each one. How might you use them in a future job or career? Some of these skills are “hard” skills. Others are considered “soft” skills. You want to highlight the hard skills—the specific things you can do—in your resume.

3) Remember what you wanted to be or do when you were a child. What did you daydream of doing? Did you want to be a writer? A dancer? An artist? Were you discouraged by an adult in your life who urged you to get trained for a “real” job? How might your life be different if you had pursued your talent? Is it too late to consider doing that? (It may be, but you should at least think about it.)

4) Consider: What are you most afraid of? Some people fail to take meaningful action toward a goal or a dream because of their fear of failure. Others fail because of their fear of success. They fear being ostracized by family and friends who feel threatened by their success. **What would you attempt to do if you knew you could not fail?**

5) Do you want to work for someone else? Or do you want to *create* a job or career for yourself? Not everyone is meant for the life of an entrepreneur. It can be a hard life, especially at first as you establish yourself. You can see other examples of those who tried and failed, and they can discourage you. There is tremendous freedom, however, in being your own boss and setting your own schedule. Do you have something to offer that might solve a problem for someone in a way that no one else can?

6) Where will you fit in the new, emerging entrepreneurial world that is just around the corner? Would you provide a service? Would you solve a particular problem better than anyone else? What is unique about you, your background, and your specific talents, skills, and gifts? How could they lend themselves toward establishing a business venture?

7) What if you don't want to be an entrepreneur? If your current job doesn't make you happy any longer, what else could you do? What other type of work could you train for? What might you undertake that would pay you well and allow you to feel more job satisfaction than you do now?

8) Where do you fit in the emerging entrepreneurial economy? Is there a place for you? Do you have enough information yet to know?

9) What is *your* dream job? Have you identified what your dream job would be? Have you allowed yourself to think about what your dream life might look like? Do you have a vision for what you want your life to be in a year? Five years? Ten years from now?

10) Be strategic. Baby steps lead to big changes. Remember you don't have to chuck your job overnight and create a new life from scratch. Jeff Goins, in his book, *Real Artists Don't Starve: Using Timeless Strategies for Thriving in the New Creative Age*, says that you can use your day job to support your dream job until you are ready to transition to your dream job for good. Don't be impulsive. You can do what you want with your life. Be intentional about it. Plan for your future. Don't let your life just happen to you. Think about what you want to look back over at the end of your life. Reverse engineer your career and your life from there.

You get one shot at this life. Don't you owe it to yourself to make the most of it?

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