



When to Leave, When to Stay?

Are you stuck in a job that doesn't have any promise of advancement up in the immediate future? The job you want is taken by more experienced professionals. You are waiting and waiting for one of them to retire, get fired or get another promotion so you can take their place.

Don't let your current job situation depress and get the better of you, be patient. If you are patient, show that you are eager and willing to learn then you should find yourself in another person shoes (and holding a higher paycheck) within a reasonable amount of time. Now, a reasonable amount of time can mean a year, six months, or five years.

On the other hand, if you feel that your job doesn't give you the opportunity for advancement, then maybe you should consider changing jobs for something more promising. This can be a difficult situation for many people really. Do you stay and wait, or move and see if the grass is greener on the other side? That is the question.

One way to see if you are on the short list to move up in your company is to ask your boss if there are positions opening in the near future. Let him or her know that you are interested (without bugging them daily of course) and you are ready for additional responsibilities. Knowing what jobs are potentially available is easy, but knowing when they are available is the hard part. Companies like those who are experienced and have a world or knowledge behind them. Companies also like up and comers who bring new ideas to the table and can take the company into the next generation.

There is a fine line with being aggressive and making sure that your boss understands that you are ready for other duties and being annoying to the point of near insanity.

There will be days where you feel like there is no chance that the position you want will open up. There will also be days where you will feel more optimistic in your hopes of achieving the next level in your career.

For example, you want to be in sales instead of being the lonely secretary in the office. Do you have any sales experience? Does your company offer sales training? If so, then you must be persistent and let your boss know that you are very interested in sales and would like an opportunity. You must make your voice heard and not just hope your boss hands you a **job opportunity**, as the job world doesn't work this way.



Perhaps you are a good "people person" and would excel in the sales department. Drive this point home with your boss and see where it gets you. Your boss's hands might be tied at the moment because no positions are available for you. Your boss will make a note and will let you know when a position opens up (hopefully).

Before you decide to walk out the door because your opportunities are limited at your **current job** (as you may think) you first must make it know within your company that you are ready for a change and willing to do what is necessary to make that change.