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## Organizing Your Efforts to Find a Job

The recession is bad for you in many ways, and it can fool you into believing that your only reason of failing to get good jobs is the recession. The recession can generate a false sense of social approval in being unemployed, it can detract you from analyzing yourself, and from pinpointing your own weaknesses that need to be taken care of.

If the recession was not there, and everyone had jobs except you, what would you have done? You would have taken a closer look at yourself and tried to improve by weeding out weaknesses in your approach to finding jobs and your projection as a candidate. There is nothing to indicate that the recession removed the need to reexamine your approaches and attitudes and try to improve them. In fact, to do that methodically is your only way of increasing your chances to find the right job and get hired. The tips below are like a checklist and may help you to reexamine your efforts to **find a job**.

### **Are you truly looking for the right jobs?**

The recession and continued lack of a good job can bring about frenzied reactions. It is easy to cultivate bad habits like applying for any job that presents itself without giving a thought to how much the job position matches your own skill sets, interests, and qualifications. In such cases, job searches become fruitless pastimes that only delude you to believe that you are actually doing something to yield results, when you are not. To optimize your efforts in job searches, it is essential to mark and apply only for those jobs that match your resume and other conditions. Applying for a job in another state when you are determined not to relocate can bring in interview calls, but not jobs.

### **Are you actively conducting your job search?**

It is common to send out resumes and applications to companies, employment agencies, and job sites and then sit back and wait for things to happen by themselves. It never happens that way. Even in the case of online resumes, search algorithms take into account the date when a resume was last updated. Savvy jobseekers frequently update their online resumes with minor language modifications so that the date of last update of the resume remains fresh. This enormously increases your chances of appearing in search results and thus increases your chances of finding a job. Active job seekers also periodically check up on companies and employment agencies on the fate of their applications and resumes and updating them wherever possible.



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## Are you keeping yourself updated with latest market trends?

That you are not in a good job, or without a job is no reason to put off activities to update yourself with the latest market trends in your chosen field. Continual updating of your skill sets and approaches, and their alignment with latest market trends is required to stay relevant as a potential candidate. How much effort you are giving to keep yourself updated shows how serious you are about your career. It is insufficient to passively gather information about your **career field**, but you also need to take active steps to acquire learning and update your skill sets to match market trends. This process cannot stop just because there is a recession, you are in the wrong job, or you don't have a job.

Though there are many other factors that you need to look over, the three issues discussed in this article are those that are most often overlooked by a stressed candidate, and neglecting them contributes to the destruction of your career. The recession is not responsible for your career, but you are.