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## Using Gaps in Your Resume to Your Advantage: 4 Quick Tips

Many couples plan their career in such a manner that when they start a family, at least one parent can remain with the children until they are old enough to go to pre-school or school. From the point of view of a career, this would mean that there would be some glaring gaps on the CV.

Let us consider that a few years have passed and the children are going to school; you are now considering getting back to your job. Your CV shows a gap of 3-5 years since the last engagement, something the interviewer is bound to notice and ask you about.

### 4 Quick Tips To Explain Gaps and Turn A Possible Disadvantage Into An Advantage

When asked about the gap in employment, your answer will need to make the interviewer believe that you are not rusty because so much time has elapsed since you last worked. Instead, you need to convince him/her that you would be an asset to the company particularly BECAUSE of time spent away from the job.

1. **The Time Spent For And With Your Family Was Good For Your Psyche** - Let your interviewer know that your mind is at rest regarding your role as a parent and supportive spouse. Since you have already taken the time to support your family in this way, you do not carry the guilt and stress that other parents might. This means you will be more dedicated to your work, and there will be less requirement for absences or extended leave (to be with the family),-hence, higher productivity, ability to focus on the work, and motivation to do a great job.
2. **Highlight Any Additional Skills You've Gained:** Many professionals add a few skills, attend relevant conferences/ seminars/ workshops, write articles, and/ or freelance on the internet. Whatever activity you carried out which would add to your value as a professional for the job you are applying, name it. Highlight the fact that the additional skills were possible because you took the break and chose to stay at home to take care of the children.
3. **Highlight Your Best Abilities For The Job** - Once you have explained the benefit of your employment gap, you can now explain exactly why you are the right person for the job. Point out the connection between your skill set and the value you will bring in when you join the team. However, be careful that you do not come across as desperate for the job. Simply explain why you feel you are well qualified.



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4. **Act Confident** -Practice speaking in front of the mirror or your friends, especially when you introduce yourself. Your voice should be well modulated and not betray any emotion, fear or inner turmoil. Keep this in mind - everyone loves a person who is in charge; nobody likes one who is always scurrying around in fear of something bad - attitude is very important