3. CAREER PATH

Career Path: Being a Successful Specialist. My Speciality. Professional Development.

1. What's the role Information technology plays today?
2. What are technology professionals responsible for?
3. What are the most common career paths in IT?
4. What hard and soft skills do you need to become a successful IT specialist?
5. What is your speciality? What career path would you like to choose?
6. What hard and soft skills are required for your speciality?
7. What are the ways of professional growth for IT specialists?

IT Industry Today

Information technology (IT) involves the study and application of computers and any type of telecommunications that store, retrieve, study, transmit, manipulate data and send information. Information technology involves a combination of hardware and software that is used to perform the essential tasks that people need and use on the everyday basis. What's the role this technology plays in today's society?

✓ Information technology's role in our daily life is to make our life easier. It acts as an assistant.
✓ It's a medium that allows massive volumes of knowledge to be held on, processed or transferred at a lightning speed.
✓ There's a lot of data at hand to create choices, maintain relationships, monitor markets, etc.
✓ Economy, science, technology, banking, transportation, communication, healthcare, education, culture, defense can't do without IT nowadays.

Careers for computer professionals (career opportunities)

Information technology professionals are responsible for designing, developing, supporting and managing computer hardware, computer software, maintaining, installing, configuring and managing IT systems and networks, including the Internet. "IT specialist" could cover a variety of positions, including the following common IT roles: **developers, software engineers, hardware engineers, QA testers, systems analysts, database administrators, designers, IT security specialists, project managers.** The work of a **software engineer** typically includes designing and programming system-level software: operating systems, database systems, embedded systems and so on. They understand how both software and hardware function. **Hardware engineer** researches, designs, and develops computers or parts of computers and computerized elements of appliances, machines and vehicles. He is also involved in their manufacture, installation and testing and has to be aware of cost, efficiency, safety and environmental factors as well as engineering aspects.

A successful specialist today

The IT profession is respected globally because of the impact IT has on society. A career is about self-actualization issues – knowledge, empowerment, recognition, opportunity, influence, reputation, and self-reliance. IT is a particularly broad discipline, so the skills you need here will largely depend on the role you're hiring for. Employers like to refer to "hard skills" and "soft skills" when defining the necessary skill set for a particular job. You need specific expertise, technical skills to apply your knowledge to perform the tasks required of you. Those are **hard skills**. Hard skills are usually focused on specific tasks and processes such as the use of tools, equipment, or software. But you also need to function well within the broader context of your workplace. You need a positive attitude with interpersonal skills and strong work ethic to collaborate productively. And the people skills to communicate effectively. Those are **soft skills**.

Ways of professional development and growth

If immediate results are what you are after, then the IT field might not be what you want. An IT career is more like a marathon than a short sprint. That's why you always have to find the ways of professional growth. If you have identified your gaps, you can take steps to fill them with the requisite skill and take an online certificate. A lot of companies have free English classes where

you can master your language skills. You can attend corporate and social events and grow your professional network. Many companies offer professional & soft skills trainings.

My speciality (skills and qualifications)

I'm studying to become a:

economist-programmer	game designer
engineer in IT and control	IT engineer
engineer in radioelectronics	marketer-programmer
engineer-programmer	system engineer
engineer-programmer-economist	system programmer-logistics specialist
engineer-system programmer	

For this career I need the following soft and hard skills…

Hard Skills vs. **Soft Skills**

Hard Skills — Teachable abilities or skill sets that are easy to quantify.

Soft Skills — Also known as "people skills" or "interpersonal skills."

你好吗? Proficiency in a foreign language — Communication
A degree or certificate — Flexibility
Typing speed — Leadership
Machine operation — Teamwork
Computer programming — Time Management

LinkedIn Learning

The Skills Companies Need Most in 2020

Top 5 Soft Skills
1. Creativity
2. Persuasion
3. Collaboration
4. Adaptability
5. Emotional intelligence

Top 10 Hard Skills
1. Blockchain
2. Cloud computing
3. Analytical reasoning
4. Artificial intelligence
5. UX design
6. Business analysis
7. Affiliate marketing
8. Sales
9. Scientific computing
10. Video production