

Career Decisions & Mistakes

1987	24	Harris/3M job selling copiers out of college
1988	25	Apple Admin role
1991	28	Apple Project manager role
1993	30	Apple Framework PM
1996	33	Licensing department manager
1997	34	Philips – hardware project manager
1998	35	Go.com – Internet policy
1999	36	Go.com Product Management
2000	37	Go.com Program Management office
2000	37	Search Product Line Director
2001	38	Maven COO – Run a small business – few options
2003	40	eBay Developer Marketing
2006	43	eBay Education
2008	45	Elance Marketing
2011	47	Looking for my next opportunity

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Major Career Decisions

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1998	35	Go.com – Internet policy
2003	40	eBay Developer Marketing
2006	43	eBay Education
2008	45	Elance Marketing

Career Mistakes:

Didn't know what to do after college so accepted my first offer – should have learned more about the company and the role before accepting

Should have found a non-admin role to start at Apple – felt trapped in that path and it was tough to get an opportunity to move off it

When Go.com shut down I should have quickly found a new job. I took a break and the economy got worse until it was really tough to find work

I should have recognized the diminishing resources being applied to eBay education and started searching for my next opportunity. I was fortunate to find Elance during my sabbatical when I wasn't going to return to eBay

I should have started searching for a new opportunity as soon as Andy became my boss at Elance. I knew my job wouldn't last.

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Career Insights:

Didn't have a plan so ended up selling copiers and then got lucky to land at Apple

When I have a plan I am usually able to succeed. Sometimes I just let things happen and it isn't usually as good.

I need to be thinking about my next role and actively preparing for it instead of waiting for a change to be forced on me.

When I am working, I'm much more valuable for a new role than when I am unemployed.