Getting Promoted

As you are starting to look for an entry level job in IT support, consider why you should start thinking about a promotion.

There are two main reasons to start job planning for a promotion: 1) Since you are prepared and committed to do your best from day 1, you will give an amazing first impression and probably get noticed from the beginning; 2) Knowing where you want to be in 5 to 10 years will help you successfully plan for your growing career. You know that you have the tools to successfully start your career as an IT support professional. Now is the time to plan for what to do next, with special consideration as to what IT path to continue. Perhaps you're interested in furthering your knowledge in networking, help desk support, or cyber security. What are the growth opportunities in your organization? Do they support training? Is this a transitional job? Is this your dream job? All these questions must be taken into account when planning your next steps.

After you answer those basic questions, you have to prepare and space your next steps accordingly. If you are planning to grow within your organization, there are a few considerations that you want to evaluate to get to the place where you want to be.

The first thing to consider when planning for a promotion is performing beyond average at your current position. This means proving to your employer that you are not only capable of doing your actual job, but that you are capable of taking on bigger responsibilities. Now, the question is, how to achieve that?

- Work on your development. There are two groups of workers: the ones doing the same job every year and excelling at it, and the ones excelling at the same job while adding value to it. To get a chance at that promotion, you need to be in the second group. The employee that gives more every day, willing to take new responsibilities.

- Show leadership and be a team player. Showing that you are a team player and can take leadership roles will help you to get noticed by your employers. Strive to be a role model, gain your coworkers respect, and motivate your team members. In other words, display and build qualities that will make you a good leader.

- Continue your education. When developing your career path, consider and plan for future certifications and training. For example, if you are planning to get from IT support to network administration, plan to take a few new certifications like Network+, Cisco professional certifications, and so on. Check for the company network administration job requirements and improve your skills accordingly.

- Maintain strong work ethics. Always be punctual for work, have excellent customer service, meet your deadlines, excel at your job, be respectful, and collaborate with your coworkers.

- Communicate with your boss, your coworkers, and your customers. Good communication is a key characteristic to display in any type of job, but when you are looking for a promotion, you need to excel in the way you communicate. It is crucial to know how to communicate. It will help when planning for your career path and add some communication training to your skill development.

Key takeaways

Planning for a promotion doesn't necessarily mean that you are going to get one. Sometimes you will need to ask for it, or change roles or organization in order to have it. But it means that you will be ready and will be able to daily demonstrate your value as part of the organization.

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