

Photo by João Ferrão on Unsplash

Photo Description: A "John Doe" resume is placed on top of a laptop keyboard that sits on a bed or other comfortable space.

In this current market, employers can get hundreds of job applications within a few hours of posting. High profile, top-paying, remote 1st roles? Your resume must stand out among the many. Keeping it short and sweet like your resume should be, let's dig into these effective tips to create a captivating resume sure to snag your dream job.

- Limit your resume to 2 pages. Recruiters spend less than 10 seconds scanning for qualified candidates.
- Organize the content so the most significant bits are contained on the first page. Create a "Highlights" or "Snapshot" section to showcase.
- Maximize real estate by restricting your work history to 10 yrs. If your relevant experience exceeds 10 yrs., add pertinent information to the "Highlights" section (See tip #1), or consider a cover letter to provide detail.
- Omit the Objective statement. Your objective is to get the job that you applied for.
- **5.** Exclude your address. Recruiters are looking at experience, employment dates, and maybe your education.
- 6. Eliminate your college graduation date and GPA. It's not needed, and it can create implicit bias.
- **7.** Remove references to affiliations with political, religious, or cultural groups unless applicable to the desired position. These, too, can foster implicit bias.
- **8.** Fight the urge to add "References available upon request". This is a given.
- Avoid long paragraphs of general tasks. Start each experience with 1–3 sentences (max) that concisely explain the main purpose of your role.
- **10.** Bullet accomplishments. Start with a strong verb. Write in active voice. Use a thesaurus, and check out this article for examples.
- Use specific numbers, percentages, hours, or dollars to emphasize impact e.g. "... reducing turn times by 3 hrs.", "... which increased sales by 65%.", "... saving the company 2M dollars".
- Refrain from using abbreviations, acronyms, colloquialisms, clichés, and excessive jargon.
- **13.** Format your resume with consistent fonts, sizes, and spacing. Do not over-stylize. Keep it organized and aligned for an ATS Compatible resume.
- 14. Customize your resume for each role. Use significant keywords and highlight position requirements.
- 15. Proofread, proofread again, and have someone review. Misspellings can be costly.