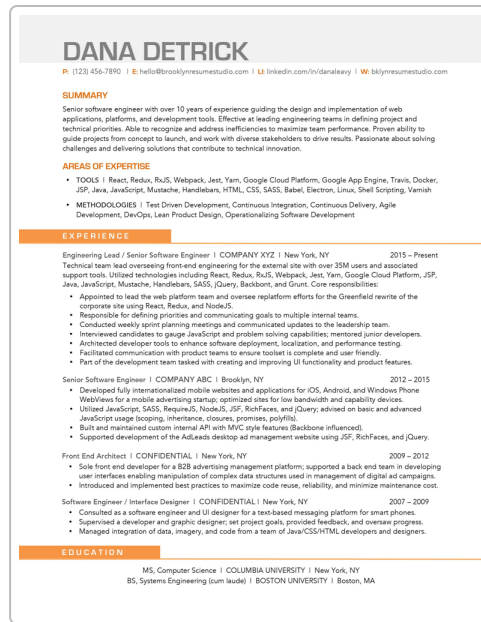


Key Skills Sought in DriveWorks/Design Automation Roles

Employers filling DriveWorks design-automation positions look for **hands-on DriveWorks and CAD expertise**. This includes proficiency with DriveWorks (Pro/Solo/Xpress) configuration and rule-building, **SolidWorks CAD modeling**, and related tools (e.g. PDM/ERP integration). Highlight any relevant certification – for example, **DriveWorks certifications** – since “employers value certified professionals, making DriveWorks certifications a great addition to your resume” ¹. Also emphasize programming and data skills: list languages like C#, VB/.NET, SQL or Python used for automation and form scripting, and note any database or script experience. A typical job posting notes as required skills “solid experience in using SolidWorks for 3D design” and “ability to generate and manipulate databases using SQL” ², as well as writing macros to automate tasks. Wherever possible, quantify your impact. For example, an effective bullet might read: *“Used DriveWorks to configure assemblies, saving tremendous design time on similar orders”* ³. This focuses on **results (metrics)** rather than just tasks ⁴ ³. Soft skills like **problem-solving, communication, and initiative** also matter – mention them briefly if illustrated by project outcomes or leadership (for instance, “led a cross-functional CAD automation project...”).

Resume Structure and Length

A clear, well-structured resume is crucial. Include standard sections in this order: **Contact Information**, a one-sentence **Summary**, **Work Experience**, **Education**, **Skills**, and **Certifications/Training** ⁵. In the **Summary**, write 1–2 concise sentences highlighting your most relevant qualifications (e.g. years of design-automation experience, key certifications, or career focus) ⁶ ⁷. In **Work Experience**, list roles in reverse chronological order, giving the company, your title, dates, and bullet points for each. Use strong action verbs and emphasize accomplishments. Where possible, **quantify** achievements (time saved, designs automated, errors reduced, etc.) ⁴. For example, *“Automated 50+ custom machine designs with DriveWorks, reducing engineering time by 30%”*. Finally, include a **Skills** section listing technical tools (DriveWorks, SOLIDWORKS, programming languages, PLM systems, etc.) and any relevant soft skills.



Example of a clear technical resume layout with bold section headings (Summary, Experience, Education). Organize information in distinct sections for easy scanning 5 6 .

Aim for a **concise length**: generally **1-2 pages** is recommended. One page suits new graduates or under 5 years' experience; two pages is acceptable (even expected) for more seasoned engineers 8 . Use formatting (font size, margins) to fit content, but **do not cram**: clarity beats density. As [Resume-Now] advises, "resumes should be no more than two pages long" and extra length should only cover substantive, **relevant experience** 8 . Cut unnecessary detail to keep the resume focused on what the employer needs to see.

ATS-Friendly vs. Graphical Layouts

Most technical employers and resellers use Applicant Tracking Systems (ATS) to screen resumes. **ATS-friendly** design means a simple, single-column layout with standard fonts (Arial, Calibri, etc.), clear headings, and bullet lists 9 10 . **Avoid** complex graphics, images, charts, or multi-column tables, as these can confuse parsing. As one resume expert notes, "graphical elements...are generally not readable by the ATS system, and using them...will render your resume ineffective" 10 . Use black text on white or light background. You may use subtle lines or a single accent color for headings, but keep the design restrained and consistent.



Top tips for an ATS-friendly resume: use clear fonts, headings, and bullet points, and avoid graphics or text in images ⁹ ¹⁰ .

In practice, that means **no photos, logos, or excessive styling**. If you want to add visual flair (e.g. for an internal portfolio version), keep a separate “designed” copy for human readers. But for initial applications – especially through a recruiter or company portal – submit the ATS-optimized version. It’s often recommended to **tailor both**: use the ATS-friendly version for online submissions and a more polished PDF if emailing directly to a hiring manager. However, given the technical and engineering context, prioritizing ATS-friendly format is safest.

Content: What to Include and Avoid

Include: Focus on relevant technical skills and concrete results. List **DriveWorks** (Pro/Solo/Xpress), **SOLIDWORKS**, and other CAD/configuration tools prominently. Incorporate keywords from the job description in your skills and experience (e.g. “design automation,” “CPQ,” “configurator,” “rule-based modeling”) ¹¹ . Detail your contributions with metrics (e.g. “configured 100+ custom designs using DriveWorks, cutting lead time by 25%” ³). Highlight certifications (DriveWorks Xpress Associate, DriveWorks Solo, SOLIDWORKS CSWP/CSWA, etc.) since they “stand out in the job market” ¹ . Use bullet points for each achievement and keep each to one line or two short lines (3–7 bullet points per role is typical).

Avoid: Don’t clutter with irrelevant info (personal hobbies, excessive college details if you have work experience, etc.). Drop generic buzzwords like “hardworking” or “team player” unless you back them up with examples. Never use first-person pronouns or complete sentences in bullets. And as noted, **avoid non-text elements** (photos, charts, fancy symbols) that might be skipped by ATS ⁹ ¹⁰ . Keep formatting uniform: one font type, consistent bullet style, and aligned dates/locations. Finally, avoid spelling or grammar errors at all costs – use spell-check and have a peer review your resume.

Highlighting Cross-Functional Skills

DriveWorks automates CAD design, so also emphasize any **cross-disciplinary strengths**. For example:

- **SOLIDWORKS/CAD Expertise:** Clearly state your CAD proficiency (e.g. “Certified SOLIDWORKS Professional” or “10+ years SolidWorks modeling”) ² . Employers will trust your automation skills more if you have a strong CAD foundation.
- **Programming/Data Skills:** List languages and platforms you know (C#, VBA, Python, SQL, .NET). DriveWorks often integrates with databases and custom code, so “experience programming macros in SolidWorks” or “SQL data management” is a plus ² .
- **UI/UX/Reporting:** Mention any front-end or design work (even HTML/CSS/JS) because DriveWorks forms use these. For instance, “designed DriveWorks configurator forms with custom CSS” or “built interactive dashboards (Power BI, etc.)” shows versatility.
- **Integration Tools:** If you’ve used ERP, CRM or PLM systems, note that (e.g. integration with Salesforce, SAP, DELMIAWorks). Many configurator roles involve pulling data from other systems.
- **Soft Skills and Processes:** Briefly highlight teamwork, Agile/Scrum, or project management experience if relevant. For example, “*Collaborated with sales and manufacturing teams to define product rules*” indicates cross-functional work.

By weaving these into your experience and skills sections, you show you’re more than a niche specialist. For instance, a bullet like “*Authored VB.NET scripts and SQL queries to integrate DriveWorks with our ERP, enabling real-time BOM updates*” illustrates both programming and systems integration. Use the language of the job description to tie these skills together.

Tailored vs. General Resume Strategy

It’s almost always better to **customize your resume to the role and employer**. A one-size-fits-all resume is less effective. As Indeed advises, “*Targeting your resume for a specific job description can increase your chances of getting shortlisted*” ¹² . This means you should tweak your summary, skills list, and even some bullets for each application. For example, when applying to a DriveWorks reseller like Invenio NZ for a specific client role, highlight the subset of your skills most relevant to that client’s industry (e.g. furniture configurators vs. HVAC systems).

If you’re applying through a reseller or recruiter, you might maintain a strong “core” resume, but still adjust its language. Emphasize DriveWorks and SOLIDWORKS when targeting a design-automation job, and add or remove keywords to match the client’s niche. In short, use a targeted resume approach: **one tailored document per job**. This does not mean rewriting everything; focus on the summary, reorder your bullet points so the most relevant projects come first, and match terms (e.g. if the role mentions “CPQ,” be sure to include that acronym if you have experience). As one guide notes, targeted resumes “highlight your education, professional experience, accomplishments, and skills” that are relevant to *this* opportunity ¹³ .

In summary, for DriveWorks automation roles prioritize technical substance and clarity. Use an ATS-compliant layout with clear section headings ⁵ , articulate your DriveWorks/engineering achievements quantitatively ⁴ ³ , and tailor each resume to the specific job. These steps will help your resume stand out in the specialized CAD/configuration niche.

Sources: Best practices are drawn from DriveWorks (job postings and official blog) and respected career resources. For example, DriveWorks itself notes that certifications signal valued skills ¹ ; NZ industry guides emphasize ATS-friendly resumes ¹⁴ ⁹ ; and recruiting experts stress tailoring resumes and quantifying achievements ¹² ⁴ . These principles guide the recommendations above.

¹ Demonstrate your Design Automation Skills with DriveWorks Certifications - DriveWorks

<https://www.driveworks.co.uk/blog/demonstrate-your-design-automation-skills-with-driveworks-certifications/>

² Programmer DriveWorks - DS Smith | Built In

<https://builtin.com/job/programmer-driveworks/3556762>

³ Software Developer Resume Chicago, IL - Hire IT People - We get IT done

<https://www.hireitpeople.com/resume-database/63-net-developers-architects-resumes/212083-software-developer-resume-chicago-il-6>

⁴ ⁸ Resume Length: How Long Should a Resume Be in 2025?

<https://www.resume-now.com/job-resources/resumes/how-long-should-a-resume-be>

⁵ ⁷ ⁹ ¹¹ ¹⁴ Tips for creating an ATS friendly resumé - SEEK New Zealand

<https://www.seek.co.nz/career-advice/article/tips-for-creating-an-ats-friendly-resume>

⁶ 5 Step Guide on How To Create a CAD Engineer Resume | Indeed.com

<https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/resumes-cover-letters/cad-engineer-resume>

¹⁰ Infographic Resumes That Will Be Seen By ATS | BRS

<https://www.bklynresumestudio.com/ats-compliant-infographic-resumes/>

¹² ¹³ How to Write a Targeted Resume in Five Steps (With Template) | Indeed.com Canada

<https://ca.indeed.com/career-advice/resumes-cover-letters/targeted-resume>