GUIDE TO CHANGING YOUR CAREER TO THE TECH INDUSTRY

Making a career change from one industry to another is a big decision. With so many job opportunities in the tech industry - many of which are high paying - it's important to convey to other tech professionals that your interest in the field goes beyond the potential multiple job offers and competitive salary. As you enter your first job after Boot Camp graduation and navigate your way through the technical profession, be ready demonstrate you know the answers to a common question:

What made you decide to pursue a job in tech?

Know why you enjoy working in the tech environment
There are many appealing facets about working in a technical-focused role, including:
- The field and the job are constantly changing
- The work and the environment can be very fast-paced
- Many projects allow you to work both collaboratively and independently
- You utilize lots of creativity
- There is often great flexibility with regard to workspace, hours, etc.
- You have the opportunity to deliver concrete results

Identify what appeals to you. Reference the factors during your interview and exemplify your interests on the job.

Demonstrate your transferrable skills and how they're applicable in the tech industry
Soft skills matter in every profession and tech is no exception. What skills did you utilize in previous jobs that you're hoping to incorporate into your new role? Review the Transferrable Skills Guide[1] from the Career Resource Library to help identify your transferrable skills. Look for projects and initiatives in your new company that allow you to showcase these talents.
Your potential contributions aren't limited to your technical skills. Leadership skills, the ability to manage people and projects, working collaboratively and affecting change are some examples that employers look for when considering recognitions and promotions.

Look for ways to combine your passions with your new career path
Technology is an industry in and of itself. But web development jobs aren't just found in technical companies. Technology is used in every industry: education, healthcare, finance, law. The list goes on. Is there a particular focus that interests you? Review the

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[1] Transferrable Skills Guide: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5lPwZ4yfMErMHhqdXJ2eHF0Y28/view

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Flower Diagram Exercise you completed as part of your Bio Homework[2]. Pay particular attention to the items you listed for petal one (goal, purpose, mission in life) and petal two (favorite fields of interest). This information can help guide potential industries to target in your job search.

Remember the word "change" is part of "career change." If your passions or interests weren't being recognized in your previous line of work, now is the opportunity to pursue them.

Get involved in technology outside of work (conferences, meetups, hackathons, etc.)
Look for ways to continue developing your technical skills and knowledge about the profession. Attend conferences, join meetups and take advantage of any professional development opportunities your company offers. Read relevant articles and participate in LinkedIn group discussions. Technology is always changing so it's important to stay relevant and informed.

If you work a technical role in a non-technical organization, get involved in aspects of your company's overall initiative or focus. Honing your technical skills will help you support the company's mission and objectives, but it's also important to stay current on external factors influencing both.

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[2] Building Your Bio And Perfecting Your Pitch:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5RxKVA2sWhqTXJvWWt2T1ByYms/view