

title: **I landed a lead role, and I'm freaking out**

num_comments: 15

num_up_votes: 63

upvote_ratio: 0.97

Post Text

Hi all, I recently landed a lead DevOps role in a start-up, and I'm scared. I'm currently in a mega boring Ops role (the catalyst to finding out I have ADHD, but that's another story) with little responsibility. Prior to that, I was Senior DevOps for a few years, but I'm so afraid of all the new responsibilities, and the fact that I've basically forgotten everything about DevOps, except from a level that I could bluff my way through while interviewing. Ahhhhhhh. I'm not starting the new job for a couple of months, so does anyone have advice? By the way, I've never been on medication, but expect to be in the next couple of weeks.

Comments

Commenter_2

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 24

Figure out a very good personal workflow. Personally I use Obsidian, it allows me to not lose track of anything and keep me on task.

Commenter_3

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 7

Do you have any examples of how you have organised Obsidian?

OP

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 5

I've installed Obsidian, and it's really complex looking... Any tips?

Commenter_5

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 9

Perhaps I'm biased as the creator, but as someone who also has ADHD, Obsidian seems overwhelming. I'm the creator of Recollectr which has a lot of the same functionality built into a much more streamlined UI.

OP

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 3

Very cool! I'll take a look at that, thanks for suggestion. Are you offering the discounted upgrade for much longer?

Commenter_5

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 1

Hey sorry for the delay!

The early supporter plan will probably be around for a few more months, though there's always a chance we'll go viral and fill up the slots we have in a flash.

We'll probably send an email to users before we phase out the early supporter pricing to give people one last chance to get onboard, so if you sign up with an unpaid account you'll get some notice when that happens.

Hope it helps out! Get in touch any time if you have questions, and join us over at

r/Recollectr!

Commenter_6

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 5

Just start simple with it. It's extremely easy to type and organize notes using markdown syntax, so just start there. Even at its most basic, obsidian can be a handy tool, so I wouldn't worry much about plugins or any advanced features right away.

Commenter_2

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 2

Learn to link notes, and find a good daily template to use. Every day when you log in generate your daily template and look over all your tasks that are due soon, due today, due this week.

Commenter_2

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 2

So many good YouTube tutorials, best thing is to find a good daily template and use it every day

Commenter_7

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 2

I start writing notes based on what the task i'm trying to complete. For instance, install [[x]] on [[y]] kind of like a log. Then every concept that I feel like I want to expend upon will get a note like [[this]]. Persons, technologies and concepts all can get their own note this way.

Commenter_8

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 7

I was in a similar spot years ago, but without the senior DevOps experience. I made a move to a senior IC role, which quickly turned into a lead role, then managing ICs, then managing multiple teams and 1-3 year strategy. I've since moved back into an IC role and am considering going back into leadership with my next step.

Summary: Ops IC -> DevOps IC -> DevOps lead -> cloud IC -> DevOps mgr -> DevOps IC -> ?

Learning what to prioritize with all your new job responsibilities is an ongoing struggle. Some background will help as "DevOps lead" could mean a lot of things. Are you managing people? Are you the technical point of escalation? Are you the "product manager" for your team (assuming there is a team)? Are you doing architectural design?

So far, the only concern I've gathered is that you feel the industry has left you behind (to some extent). You don't want to be an "all talk, no show" type of team mate.

- half the battle is actually being concerned about it. The worst folks are the ones that continue to evade that topic. When I was a mgr, there were plenty of projects where I was considered a mid-level engineer due to my lack of experience with the tech (e.g. was new to k8s, project was k8s implementation) and readily embraced it.

- the other half is prioritizing what to learn in the correct order and properly distributing your "useful" cycles effectively. Are you doing more than just hands-on tech? If so, are you confident in your abilities in these other areas? Dedicating your worthwhile hours to the "right things" is not easy, but investing in it now compounds year over year.

Feel free to DM me if you want to chat some more but don't want to share details publicly

OP

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 2

Thanks for the detailed response. I won't be managing people, but I will be the technical leader for the team when it comes to anything regarding cloud / infrastructure / automation. There may be some architectural design, but I'd like that they hire an actual architect for that.

I have a lot of technical knowledge, but I will report directly to a department director, with no manager. I think that's one part that's causing me anxiety. No management buffer.

And, of course I'm concerned about the effects of ADHD on my performance.

Commenter_9

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 2

Do you know what exactly your new position would include? Maybe try to create a list of things to review before your start, don't have to go into a lot of detail?

OP

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 1

I know approximately what the role will be. Designing the CI/CD pipelines, figuring out migration to a different cloud provider, and a few other things. I did have a giant list of revision topics that I went over for the interview, which I'd say helped me.

Commenter_10

ID: REDACTED! ~(o.o)~ <3, Upvotes: 1

Sounds fun to be honest.

But what does that organization consider "dev ops"? Last i looked, no one could decide what the term actually meant as a role title.