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Hack Your Job Search: Chapter 10 Worksheet

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In Chapter 10, "What to Do if You're Still Not Landing Interviews", you reflected on how to look hard at all your search materials and your approach if you aren't getting the interviews you hoped for. In this worksheet, you'll get specific about putting this advice into practice.

1. Ask for feedback.

Identify someone that you can ask to review your GitHub or personal website portfolio. This can be someone you know from programming coursework, through your network or perhaps a mentor. Write down some prospects here:

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Now, reach out and ask for their review. You might say something like:

> Hi Jeff,
>
> I'm trying to improve my GitHub and personal website to increase my chances of landing a beginning iOS developer job. Would you be willing to take a look at either or both of these from the perspective of a senior developer? I'd like to know what's missing, what's misorganized, what shouldn't be there at all — really, any insight you can provide on how I can better come across as a competent junior hire.
>
> Thanks in advance, Susannah

Once they agree, thank them again and share the links. Take their feedback seriously and make any suggested changes that make sense to you.

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2. Review your LinkedIn profile.

Next, tackle your LinkedIn profile. Who will you ask to review your LinkedIn? If you've been working with a recruiter who's knowledgeable about mobile development, they could be an ideal critic. Write who you will ask to review your LinkedIn here:

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_____

Now, reach out, ask for a thorough review of all sections of your profile and implement any suggestions that make sense.

3. Identify missing LinkedIn keywords.

Finally, try to improve the keywords that appear in your LinkedIn so you match more openings. Think about three people you know online or in real life who recently landed developer roles similar to what you seek. Write their names here:

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Look carefully at each of their LinkedIn profiles. What terms do they use that you haven't? Write them here:

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Add what you can, while being honest about your skills. If you repeatedly see mention of skills or frameworks you don't yet know, that's a great indicator of what technology you should study next!

4. Consider your mental health.

Job searching is difficult and stressful. It can even make you question your self-worth. If you find your energy starts to wane, it's OK to pause — the job search and this guide will still be here when you return!

Take a moment to think about a few things you can do to refresh yourself and stay positive. Stepping away from the keyboard, taking a walk, meeting with friends and doing something creative are a few examples. Write them down here and use them when the job hunt starts to wear on you:

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Good luck and please join in on the forums to share how your search is going and what suggestions have proved most valuable for you!

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