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Career Path

Can't figure out where your career should go next? Our comprehensive

Tech Career Paths

hub is your roadmap to navigating the exciting possibilities in the tech industry. From exploring in-demand specializations to identifying the perfect fit based on your skills and interests, we'll guide you through the key considerations you need to make. Discover insider tips, data-driven insights, and expert advice on education, certifications, and in-demand skills... all designed to empower you to chart the perfect course for your tech career journey.

Career Path Trends

Once you've decided to embark on a tech career, you'll face an ongoing series of decisions . One of the great things about a tech career is how many different pathways you will have access to. But the number of different options can also make it challenging to make decisions. Which ones will yield the most job opportunities or money? Which require the most education, including certifications? What are the specializations that I need to progress in my career now, and which ones should I look at to give me the best chance for success in the future? This hub offers a plethora of articles, podcasts, career guides, and other content designed to tackle all these questions... and more!

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Video

4 Tips to Transform Online Connections Into Meaningful Professional Relationships

Article

4 Tips to Transform Online Connections Into Meaningful Professional Relationships

Connecting online with subject matter experts and colleagues has become a popular way to expand your professional network. In fact, statistics show that 40 percent of people network more online than in-person. However, when it comes to professional networking, connecting is only the beginning. The real challenge is guiding new “digital” connections with colleagues and tech hiring managers toward meaningful follow-up conversations and real professional relationships. Fortunately, there are ways to make this happen. Here are four methods for transforming online connections into meaningful professional relationships. Connect On Purpose, For a Purpose Don't cold-connect randomly. Review the person's profile and figure out why you want to connect before you reach out to someone online, advised Bill McCormick, founder and owner of Digi-Sales, a professional training and coaching firm. Look at their recent activity, their connections, the groups they belong to, their code samples, projects an

Article

How Tech Pros Can Thrive in Their First Management Role

Article

How Tech Pros Can Thrive in Their First Management Role

Not every tech professional wants to become a manager. However, as you advance in your career, chances are good you'll end up managing a team at some point. If you're going to succeed in any kind of management role, you need a core set of skills, such as empathy and communication, in order to help your team produce its best work. With all that in mind, let's break down how any tech professional can thrive in a management role. While becoming a manager might seem like an intimidating prospect, it doesn't have to be—in fact, it can become something you enjoy, provided you're prepared.

Challenges and Benefits of Transitioning to Management If you've never considered a management role before, here are some key things that you'll need to master: Shifting Focus: You'll move from focusing on individual tasks to guiding and motivating a team. This requires a broader perspective and an ability to delegate effectively. People Management: You'll be responsible for fostering a positive and product

Article

Should You Apply For Tech Jobs You're Underqualified For?

Article

Should You Apply For Tech Jobs You're Underqualified For?

If you're currently on the job hunt, you've no doubt stumbled onto a job posting that excites you. There's just one little problem: the job's experience and skill requirements might seem a little out of your reach, especially if you're a relatively new tech professional. Should you still apply? Given the demand for tech talent (and the historically low tech unemployment rate), you might have a shot at a job that initially seems like it's out of your reach—provided you can convince a recruiter and/or hiring manager that you not only have at least some of the skills necessary for the position, but also an aptitude for growth.

More than one company has hired someone relatively inexperienced based on their potential. Before you dismiss any position, there are several compelling reasons to aim high: Faster Growth: Stepping into a challenging role can accelerate your learning curve. You'll be pushed to develop new skills and gain valuable experience that might take years in a more familiar p

Article

Latest Content

AI and Cybersecurity Engineers: What to Know, How to Grow

Cybersecurity engineers play a critical role in safeguarding an organization's information systems and data from unauthorized access, cyberattacks, and other forms of cyber threats. In simplest terms, they design, develop, and implement security architectures that align with the organization's tech stack.

While the role of a cybersecurity engineer varies from one organization to another—some may focus on automation, others on application security—many are tasked daily with configuring firewalls, Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS)/Intrusion Prevention Systems (IPS), and other critical security tools. They also need to understand and protect cloud, Secure Access Service Edge (SASE), and zero-trust environments. These professionals don't usually shy away from technically challenging issues, even during their more junior years. However, the rise of artificial intelligence (AI) has made the cybersecurity environment infinitely more complex—both from a threat and a tool perspective. How AI Ca

Dice Reddit AMA: Senior Tech Pro Pay, the Rise of AI, and More

In September, we held another Reddit AMA on /r/cscareerquestions, covering topics from the current job market to how much senior tech professionals can earn. It was a lively discussion! If you missed it, check out the Q&A highlights below; we've also included links for more context. As I mentioned in the introduction to this AMA, it's a complicated time for the tech industry. Many tech professionals fear layoffs, and there's a pervasive perception that tech hiring is weak. Meanwhile, the rise of generative AI is prompting questions (pun intended) among developers and engineers about the future of their jobs. Fortunately, there's also a lot of data out there indicating that those tech professionals with the right mix of skills and experience have plenty of opportunities to expand their careers. (Note: we've also lightly edited some of these questions and answers for clarity.) Q. How are tech-adjacent Agile roles—Scrum masters, Agile coaches, Agile product owners (if that's separate)—doi

What to Do When Low Turnover Stifles Your Career

While a high attrition rate is often blamed for problems like higher organizational costs and lower productivity in the tech industry, employee churn actually provides “hidden benefits” that boost job satisfaction for the remaining workers. When employees change jobs frequently, it facilitates both lateral and upward mobility, allowing technology pros to advance their careers by acquiring new skills and experience. Growth opportunities can come along unexpectedly, sparking your interest in a new technology or field. The question then becomes: how can you keep your career from stagnating during times like these when turnover, especially in positions involving legacy skills, slows to a crawl? Here are some ways to reignite learning and growth when there are fewer opportunities to advance and your career seems at risk of stalling out. Look in Your Own Backyard Don't assume that you have to stay stuck in neutral just because job openings are down. There are plenty of opportunities to add c

AI Tools for Coding Documentation: Which are Best for You?

Since their first day of learning to code, software developers are told of the importance of including comments in their code. For those totally new to coding, comments explain how the following few lines of code work; they help future developers understand what you're doing and why. Very few developers enjoy writing comments, and a lot of production code lives out in the world with little or no commentary. That's where AI tools can help. Today's generative AI tools can read lines of code and automatically generate comments so you don't have to. However, it's important to discern the limits of these tools, because a developer who misuses them while coding can cause issues that ripple throughout an organization for years to come. For instance, they don't analyze your code and create documentation for your end users (there are almost certainly companies starting to build such tools, but technologically speaking, we're not quite there yet). Let's jump in! The Tool Rundown ChatGPT: ChatGPT

AI Tools for Data Analytics: Which are Best for You?

Data analysis has no shortage of AI tools, making it overwhelming to determine what's available and what might help when it comes to analyzing huge datasets. Let's try to sort out at least some of the confusion by examining some AI tools that work within existing data analysis workflows. Chatbots and Virtual Assistants Chatbots are ubiquitous to any type of programming work these days, especially the newest generative AI chatbots (such as ChatGPT). These tools can offer help with data analytics in several ways. For example, they can offer coding advice. If you're writing some Python code, for instance, you can copy it into the chatbot and ask for help. Chatbots can also be used for teaching and training, such as suggesting which tools are best for a particular job. Here are some general purpose

chatbots popular among data people and coders: ChatGPT: Everyone knows this one, of course; while trained on a whole world of knowledge, ChatGPT also excels in coding and data analysis. The new

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