

*Is your resume good enough for your next dream Java/JEE job?*

*Make your Java/JEE Resume stand out*

With

# Java/JEE Resume Companion

By

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**Java/JEE  
Resume Companion**

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<b>Outline</b>
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SECTION	DESCRIPTION
	<b>What this book will do for you?</b>
	<b>Can you think from a prospective employer's perspective?</b>
	<b>Why is your resume an important tool to effectively market your services in Java/JEE?</b>
	<b>How do you get the prospective employer to interview you and not the other person who has done exactly the same thing or little more?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ordinary vs. outstanding resume.</li> <li>▪ Ordinary vs. outstanding phrases.</li> </ul>
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	<p>fragmented or scrambled work history?”, “How far back should you go in your work history?”, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Do you have any book recommendations?</li> </ul>
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## What this book will do for you?

There are many books and online articles on career tips and writing a resume, why do we need another one? The “**Java/JEE Resume Companion**” is a guide specific to Java/JEE professionals with hundreds of Java/JEE related resume phrases and sample resumes with career making guidelines, tips, and key website links. While writing an effective resume is the main focus of this book, there are lots of general tips on job hunting, networking, how to gain much needed hands on experience for beginners?, art of self-promotion, and acquiring soft skills to make a mark in your Java career.

**Do you know the true purpose of a resume?** In the desperation of an intense job search, we lose sight of the true purpose of a resume. Job-hunters put so much time and energy into crafting a resume that it ends up resembling an autobiography, rather than a marketing tool. The true purpose of a resume is to get an interview NOT a job. It is a screening device and therefore needs to present you in such a way that you are screened in, not out. Why are some resumes more effective than others? Most resumes are written without a clear understanding of their true purpose. Simply put, a good resume should **motivate** prospective employer to interview you. Generating interest is not the same as providing information.

***“A well written Java/JEE resume can secure you more interviews than many people more qualified than you”.***

A well written resume should tell your story of accomplishment. This is where this book shines with lots of examples and phrases. Don't "save it for the interview" because you may not get that chance. A resume is a personalized and customized marketing document. If it is written as a routine, chronological record of jobs you have held, it will fail to generate interest. Don't expect your resume to get more than 25-30 seconds of review before someone makes a decision to look at it further or throw it away.

Writing a great resume does not necessarily mean that you should follow the rules you read through this book or elsewhere. Every resume is a unique marketing tool where you give a 10-30 second presentation of your achievements, experience, and skills to win an interview. You should write your resume exactly how you would like to depending on your situations like country you live in, prospective employers' requirements, personal experience, etc, but some of the tips, guidelines, and Java/JEE specific examples in this book can help you write a highly effective resume. It is a competitive world out there and you need to be the standout applicant.

**Do you really know what employers are looking for in your Java/JEE resume?**

## Can you think from a prospective employer's perspective?

This guide will enable you to write a resume from a prospective employer's perspective. When a prospective employer is scanning through piles of resumes, it is an art to capture his or her attention to read your resume from beginning to end by making them concise and interesting to read. It is not hard to create a really great resume if you simply try to picture yourself as the person who is going to read it. After reading the first few paragraphs or bullet points, the prospective employer/recruiter needs to think, "Wow, this Java/JEE professional can do the job!" More often simple tips and creativity can make a huge difference. If you are a seasoned professional, this companion has hundreds of phrases to relate with your own experience, and if you are a beginner, it can help you make a head start in your career by being in the "know how". Even though the examples are more specific to Java/JEE profession, the concepts and tips are applicable to any information technology related profession.

***"Do you consider yourself to be a Java or Hibernate guru? Technical skills alone are no guarantee of success. Acquiring certifications alone are not going to bring your next promotion or save you from being let off".***

Piling up of your certifications and learning new frameworks alone don't lead to recognition, promotion, and most importantly opportunity. If you are an experienced Java/JEE professional and deciding, which professional skill to improve, then this guide can help you dig deep beyond just certifications and identify the next set of skills to acquire and close the gap to become a **well rounded** Java/JEE professional, not just another Java/JEE techie.

***"Employers are looking for great contributors not just extreme programmers."***

Ineffective resumes result in prolonged job searches, and very often, lower salary offers. It can also negatively impact your self confidence. When people get a poor response to an application, they think that they are the problem, but fail to think that their resume could be the problem. If you really stop to think what monetary benefits an effective resume can bring, you will be motivated to put the extra effort. Even, if you are already in an employment, multiple-job offers can increase your power to negotiate better salaries. You could also even take up contract roles with the confidence that you could find a suitable employment even in a difficult job market, not only with your effective resume, but also with your broad experience, skills, and the power of networking.

No matter whether you are a novice or a seasoned professional, perfect **Java/JEE related phrases** in a clear and concise resume will define your goals, exemplify your skills, and highlight your achievements for potential employers. This companion provides hundreds of Java/JEE related phrases that can make your resume stand out. It is also filled with career-making tips and advice. Your resume will be a true reflection of who you are and how you can be a true asset to any business. Whether it is posted on the Web/Forum sites, sent directly to prospective employer, or handed in personally at career fairs, this guide can help you write a resume that gets noticed, get you an interview, and along with "Java/J2EE Job Interview Companion" can get you the job.

Finally, writing an effective resume is also an excellent interview preparation. It will help you to learn about yourself and empower you to walk into interviews knowing that you are highly capable.

**Do you feel confident and good about your current Java/JEE resume and career progression?** If you might not think so now, ask yourself the same question again after you have read this companion and have in your hands your completed, highly effective, customized, and well-rounded resume.

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## Why is your resume an important tool to effectively market your services in Java/JEE?

*“People more often buy the best advertised product than the best product”*

The same is true in marketing your personal services. If you want to market a product successfully, you must know the product. Many of you do not think in a marketing oriented way when it comes to selling your personal services.

<b>Product:</b>	Your personal services.
<b>The Targeted Market:</b>	Your prospective employer.
<b>The Product Features:</b>	Your achievements, skills, experience, education, and capabilities.
<b>The Product Benefits:</b>	Contribute to meet the business objectives and add value to the business.
<b>The Marketing Plan:</b>	A highly effective resume that can attract more interviews by meeting the requirements of the target market.

If you want to increase your chances of winning a job interview, you must put some effort in writing a good resume. A resume is an essential marketing tool in your job search and career progression.

Can you please go through these 50 Java/J2EE resumes in the next 20 minutes. I need a senior developer real soon.



Your resume on average has to stand out from 20-100 other competitors unless you are a high profile candidate like Rod Johnson (Founder of Spring framework) or your resume was handed in via networking. Research shows that your resume will be quickly scanned, rather than read. All you have is a few seconds to persuade a prospective employer to read further. So, the role of your resume is to generate enough curiosity and interest for the prospective employer to wanting to interview you. This means your resume should be concise and your top achievements, skills, and experience must be prioritized in the upper most section of your resume. If possible in the first page itself.

To write an effective resume, you do not have to hard sell or make any false claims, but you need to get over your shyness and unwillingness to toot your own horn. If you cannot, who can? If you are willing to take some extra effort to learn and apply some of the guidelines discussed here and be more creative in preparing your resume, then you will definitely get a better response from prospective employers than people with better credentials. So, to win an interview, you should write a resume that is:

- Results oriented
- Key areas driven
- Soft skills and personal attributes are captured
- Sought-after technologies and frameworks are mentioned
- Strengths are highlighted
- Credible
- Concise and well-formatted without spelling errors.

**Note:** Bold faces and underlines are used in this book to highlight the importance and relevance to the reader, and this should not be construed as to be reflected in the real resume. Names and numbers are used for illustrative purpose only, and use your own data by reflecting back on your own experience if using these examples on your resume.

## **Results oriented**

Examples include:

- Reduced the complex Web based search response times from 8-10 seconds to 3-4 seconds by implementing true pagination and tuning hibernate mapping file.
- Redesigned and migrated a poorly performing and outdated application to Spring, Hibernate, and JSF based frameworks, which performs 40% faster for MQR Investment banking.

developer”, etc. These phrases do not mean much because everyone uses them. Apparently everyone in the world is a hard worker, team player and excellent communicator.

Ordinary Phrase	Outstanding Phrase
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Performance tuned a Java/JEE based application.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Re-architected, refactored, and performance tuned a Websphere and JEE based online insurance application, which <i>previously came down almost daily, became a true 24x7 application.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Standout factor:</b> Shows that you have experience with mission critical 24x7 applications.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Designed and developed a Java/JEE based online system for the XYZ Ltd.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Designed and developed a Java/JEE based online insurance system, which serves over 400 concurrent users using Spring, Hibernate, JSF, and Ajax.</li> </ul> <p><b>Standout factor:</b> Shows that you have experience in building large and complex production systems using sought-after technologies like Spring, Hibernate, etc.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ I am an excellent leader and a communicator.</li> <li>▪ A top-notch Java developer with strong technical and interpersonal skills.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Led resolution of customer enquiries concerning policies, procedures, and programs through active listening and standard coaching methods at XYZ Retail Services.</li> <li>▪ On taking up the position as a Java/JEE technical lead, set up a team of 8 developers to successfully complete the project on time and within budget.</li> <li>▪ Sun Java 2 certified professional with deep understanding of object-oriented analysis and design with 6 month hands-on experience in open source projects.</li> <li>▪ Results driven developer with demonstrated success in the design and development of large systems in the financial industries like Big Bank1, MQR Investment, and Large Finance 2.</li> <li>▪ History of building software systems with improved functionality, code quality, and</li> </ul>

	<p>productivity, consistently meeting business expectations and deadlines at Large Retail 1, Big Telco, and Sure Insurance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A passionate software developer with contribution to open source projects and proven track record in integrating disparate systems for Large Telco 1, Popular Fast Food Chain 2, and Large Consultancy 3.</li> </ul> <p><b>Standout factor:</b> Replaces clichés and jargons with details.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Involved in the development of a JSF, Hibernate, and Websphere application server based investment portfolio application.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Contributed immensely to the development of a JSF, Hibernate, and 5 clustered Websphere application servers based investment portfolio application that has over 1 million registered users.</li> </ul> <p><b>Standout factor:</b> There is a big difference between just getting involved and contributing with passion and commitment.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ My responsibilities involved enhancing the functionalities and improving the code quality of a Java/JEE based investment portfolio application.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Transformed an inefficiently written Java/JEE based application into a more maintainable and reusable system by redesigning and refactoring it with industry best practices. This enabled the system to scale better without any problems when additional functionalities were added and also improved developer productivity.</li> </ul> <p><b>Standout factor:</b> Replaces “responsibilities included” with on-the-job accomplishments.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Acquired team work and problem solving skills while collaborating on a university assignment with other students.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Applied strong interpersonal and communication capabilities in working with a wide range of personnel at all levels to gain valuable insight, solve potential problems, and facilitate the timely completion of tasks at AAA hospitality industries.</li> </ul> <p><b>Standout factor:</b> Working with a team in a work place provides experience dealing with people of different backgrounds and ages. So, work related experience is more impressive than academic ones.</p>

how big, how much, how often, and so on. Just like a picture is worth thousands words, quantifying by using numbers in your resume can make a huge difference. For job seekers with little or no experience put the emphasis on your academic achievements like sun certification, Java test scores, etc along with experience, technical, and soft skills gained from self-taught project(s), university project(s), open source community project(s), and non-industry specific part-time jobs (i.e. paid or unpaid). With each new job and experience, you need to work towards improving this with industry specific experience.

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#### Example(s):

- Reduced the monthly Java based commission batch runs from *18 hours to 7 hours* at XYZ ltd.
- Identified and fixed a *hard to reproduce concurrency issue* in a Java/JEE based application for the XYZ Inc.
- Redesigned a Web based finance application, containing complex search screens and large amount of data to *perform 40% faster*, for MQR Investment banking.
- Tuned Websphere application server to *improve performance* during the peak loads and prevent it from crashing.
- Re-architected, refactored, and performance tuned a J2EE based online insurance application, which *previously came down almost daily, became a true 24x7 application*.
- Performance tuned a Java based portfolio builder application using JProbe, which resulted in 70% improvement in responsiveness in processing high volume of XML based files and brought the application well into conformance with the SLAs.
- Introduced and championed iterative and test driven development (TDD) with best practices such as domain-driven design, code reviews, continuous integration, GoF design patterns, use of CSS, custom tag libraries, etc, which *resulted in not only more maintainable and extensible code*, but also significant *drop in bugs*.
- Designed and developed a JSF, Facelets, Spring, and Hibernate based “Product Recall” application that made a visible difference in terms of its quality of code, design concepts, and use of best practices.
- Spearheaded the design and development of a Spring MVC, Spring, and Hibernate based mission critical system that earned high accolades in the independent code and design reviews conducted by an independent consultancy.

#### Standout factor(s):

- The above examples highlight the *impact* of your tasks or achievements on the organization.
- If you happen to be applying for a job in an organization facing serious issues with regards to their Java application relating to memory leaks, concurrency issues, performance problems, a



- If you happen to be applying for a position with an organization, which is working on a pilot project using a different development methodology like agile methodology, RUP (recommended in SOA initiatives), etc or has just started adopting a newer development process or methodology then mentioning of your experience or familiarity can work in your favor.
- If the team leads and architects of the organization you are applying for feels that the current team is lacking skills in the key areas of design concepts, design patterns, and best practices, then mentioning of these key areas can differentiate you from your competition.

Another good reason, why these key areas are vital because solution designers, architects, team leads, and senior developers who are usually responsible for screening your resumes understand that these key areas are essential to any software development. How often do you see developers who understand transactional issues well enough? How often do you see developers who can write thread-safe code? The answer is not that often. Many can just cut code, but only a few can write quality code that is reusable, maintainable, and robust by having a good understanding of the key areas.

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#### Example(s):

- Identified and fixed *transactional issues* due to incorrect *exception handling* and *concurrency issues* due to unsynchronized block of code in a Java/JEE based Web application for ABC limited.
- Applied *design patterns* and *OO design concepts* to improve the existing Java/JEE based code base for PQR limited by refactoring it with test driven development principles.
- Initiated *agile development methodology* with *Test Driven Development (TDD)*, *XP*, and *SCRUM* concepts to improve code quality, interaction with the business, and reduce development lead time.
- Built an end to end vertical slice for a JEE based billing application, using popular frameworks like Spring, Hibernate, JSF, Facelets, XHTML, Maven2, and Ajax, and by applying *OO design concepts*, *JEE* and *GoF design patterns*, and *best practices*.
- Improved the build process by migrating it from Ant to Maven2. Also built and deployed the Java applications into multiple UNIX based environments and produced both unit and functional test results along with release notes.
- *Designed* and *developed* Struts like *MVC 2 Web* framework using the front-controller design pattern, which is used successfully in a number of production systems.
- Reviewed code and *encouraged developers to use key design patterns* such as façade, singleton, factory, command, proxy, strategy, decorator, etc and provided recommendations on *OO design concepts*, *best practices*, *exception handling*, identifying and fixing potential *memory*, *performance*, & *transactional issues*.
- Normalized Oracle 9i database, conforming to design concepts and best practices.

- Demonstrated my ability and passion to learn technologies quickly through university assignments like online restaurant management system using Java, Servlet, JSP, MySQL, and Tomcat, and worked on self-taught Java projects using Spring, Hibernate, & JSF.
- Received an outstanding customer service award for meeting the sales target, dealing effectively with difficult customers, taking initiatives, and fostering team work.
- Contributed ideas and solutions to some of the challenges and issues behind providing a better customer service, and most of which were successfully implemented.
- Led a group of 8-10 youths in planned summer camp activities, provided orientation on camp principles, and participated in mediation activities.
- Helped coordinate 1998 and 2000 campus voter registration drives, helping to register over 1000 students to vote for the first time.
- Coordinated sports events for the Indian student union, including annual cricket tournament and intramural sports activity.
- Helped the Australian cancer council raise funds over \$45,000 and participated in organizing other charity events.
- Commended by management for consistently meeting the customer expectations and delivering quality service in a timely manner at XYZ Retail store.

**Something to ponder:** I have seen senior developers and architects with technical brilliance getting sacked, laid off, or being overlooked for promotions. If you are perceived as being difficult and unfriendly, of what value are your Java/JEE skills when no one is ready to work with you? Are you being perceived as a great asset, a fantastic contributor, or just a techie who specializes in Java/JEE?

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#### **Tip #4: Avoid redundant or superfluous words.**

Review each bullet points and delete words that your sentence reads fine without, such as “fluff” words, the subject I, me, or my. For example,

**Do:** “Promoted from a senior developer role to a team lead position.....”

**Don’t:** “I was promoted from a senior developer role to a team lead position....”

Take care not to omit any important content even if it is implied. For example, HTML and CSS are required for Web development. You know this, but your recruitment agency may not be aware of it.