Finding the perfect role requires self-analysis, determination, research... and an inspiring internet profile, but it can also help to have done your share of temping

SECURE THAT IDEAL JOB

Securing a job that fulfils, motivates and inspires you is what we all aspire to achieve. But finding a role that ticks all these boxes is no easy task.

Nick Simpson, CEO of specialist healthcare recruiter MSI Group, says the best way to begin your hunt for that ideal job is to consider a few simple questions.

‘Ask yourself, what are your strengths? How well suited are your skills to different roles? Which parts of your current role do you enjoy the most? Do you work best in a faster or slower-paced role or environment? Reviewing your skill set and establishing if your skills correlate with the responsibilities of a new role will help you to work out if a job is well suited to you,’ he says.

Ways of searching out potential jobs include visiting job search websites such as www.rcnbulletinjobs.co.uk

Meeting an expert recruiter to discuss opportunities in healthcare is another option, says Hays Healthcare director Simon Hudson. ‘If you are looking for work in a specific trust or location, check the organisation’s website for updates and careers news too,’ he suggests.

Mr Simpson agrees. ‘The best way to find positions suited to your exact skill set and experience is to consult an agency embedded in the industry. ‘There are a number of highly specialised recruitment agencies able to offer professional guidance to individuals looking to change roles,’ he says. ‘There is also a wealth of advice on careers websites and specialist job boards.’

‘Taking the initiative and networking, face-to-face and using the internet, is an invaluable way of making contacts and finding out about available roles, says CVCentre.co.uk founder and chair James Innes. ‘It has always been one of the best job-hunting techniques and has become more so with the rise of the internet,’ he adds. ‘A decent profile on LinkedIn was entirely optional a few years back. These days it’s become compulsory for any professional wanting to be taken seriously. If you haven’t got one, get one. If you have got one, improve it. But don’t forget good old-fashioned word-of-mouth networking either.’

Keep developing
When you do find that dream job, make sure you stand out from other candidates. Demonstrating you are keen to continue developing on a professional and personal level is one way of doing this, Mr Simpson says. ‘Taking up opportunities to further your professional development and enhance your skill set is vital, but you should also continue to develop your interpersonal skills; strong communication skills will bolster your suitability on paper and in person.’

Finally, don’t dismiss the benefits of temporary jobs while the search continues for your perfect permanent post. Mr Simpson explains: ‘As long as you can highlight which skills you have developed and what you achieved in each role, having a number of temporary roles on your CV can really work in your favour’

By Dean Gurden, freelance journalist

Dos and don’ts
Do
❖ Look to your strengths. Ask yourself how well suited your skills are to different roles.
❖ Think about which parts of your current role you enjoy the most.
❖ Consider whether you work best in a faster or slower-paced role or environment.
❖ Continue to develop yourself professionally – look for ways to enhance your skill set.

Don’t
❖ Rule out contracting or temporary roles, if they can enhance the skills you can bring to a job.
❖ Limit your network to individuals in similar positions.
❖ Forget to continue to develop communication and personal skills.