



Getting from College to Career: 90 Things to Do Before You Join the Real World

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How do you get a job without experience and get experience without a job? It's the question virtually every college student or recent graduate faces. In *Getting from College to Career*, Lindsey Pollak offers the first definitive guide to building the experience, skills, and confidence you need before starting your first major job search. Her 90 action-oriented tips include strategies ranging from the simple to the expert, including: Avoid the biggest mistake in career prep and job huntingSubscribe to a daily newspaperE-mail like a professionalMake every event a networking successPractice the eight essentials of internship achievementPerform five minutes of stand-upOverprepare for interviewsPersist

Getting from College to Career gives you the essential information and guidance you need to get your foot in the door of the real world. Don't start your first job search without it!

Getting from College to Career: 90 Things to Do Before You Join the Real World **Details**

Date : Published April 10th 2007 by Collins Publishers (first published April 1st 2007)

ISBN : 9780061142598

Author : Lindsey Pollak

Format : Paperback 292 pages

Genre : Self Help, Nonfiction, Productivity, Education, Business

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Anna says

I only read this for my dad's benefit. He has given me dozens of self-help/advice/life-planning books over the years, and I figured I could indulge him at least once.

Echoing a previous reviewer, I am not the target audience for this book. It was written for people who are really into themselves and the idea of (mostly corporate) ~success.~ At one point the writer refers to a career as "doing what you were put on this earth to do," which sounds pretty fucking grandiose to me.

But I guess that's how my generation thinks? I met a lot of serial interns, neurotic thesis candidates, and multiple-club presidents while in college. I'm glad they're all excited about the future. They would probably like this book / have read it already.

Rosie Nguyen says

Very practical and useful book for new graduates trying to build a career.

Uriel Fuentes says

The book made me realize of many important aspects of the job seeking area. What I liked from the book is that it is divided into tips that you can more or less easily do. I have done some but I like to do more. I really think the tips given in the book can help have a much better career.

Lauren says

This has good information for college students who are entering the work force for the first time. I would honestly suggest this book for high school students with no career experience. It is very descriptive for people who have no information about networking and working. I wish I had read this earlier in my college career. I read it after having some work experience, so it wasn't as helpful for me.

Sarah Hamilton says

This book was required in sections for a class I am taking to prepare going into the Entertainment Industry. I ended up reading it cover to cover the day I got it! There were a lot of great insights that inspired me without feeling too overwhelmed. It's a great book for any time frame, but it certainly would have helped to have read it earlier in my college career!

Kerrington Hood says

2.5/5

I found this book to be full of common sense points. These said points may not be very "duh, of course" like for everyone so in the right hands it could be very eye opening. For someone on my career path (high school English) it feels a bit useless. Lots of the points and suggestions don't feel aimed or applicable in my field. More open ended career paths where having a name and a foot in the door make a huge difference. Not saying that it doesn't make a difference for me it just doesn't feel like the most important thing in my line.

So I'm giving it a 2.5/5 for the relatable and (albeit commonly known) good points. Maybe helpful for some, just not me.

Kartik Singh says

A good reference book to read before embarking on the corporate journey. Early years of college is the best time to read this book. It could be read by a working professional as well but a significant portion of the book becomes obvious or redundant in many cases.

A note to readers around the globe - this book is targeted towards American college student but there are a lot of generic advice which translates directly and will be useful in your country as well.

Overall the book could be classified as a self-help reference manual because it touches a wide range of topics through examples right from networking to even table etiquettes.

Heidi says

Good tips, some are a little dated because it was written in 2007, but overall it has some very applicable tips. Be sure to read it before you graduate, and not after; it is still valuable knowledge but I wish I'd have known about it before graduating.

Farisi Al Ayubi says

it's very basic point in this book at least.

but, it sure can be useful for undergraduate student.

But I disagree with point that said we must work at our passion, because sometimes we really don't know "what is our passion?". Find passion is not solution for this modern economy but learn new thing and be good at it or be superstar at that thing will bring advantage to us.

Melanie says

I think this is a solid book for a college student. Pollak's approach is to list a bunch of stuff it would be good to do in order to find a job by graduation but she also assures the reader that this isn't a "do-in-order" checklist. Dip in and dip out as needed.

However, as someone who thinks about job searching day in and day out it didn't offer too many new insights.

I wish that I had read the newest edition. The edition I read referenced some information and tools that are out of date.

Linh Ph??ng Nguy?n says

This is truly a helpful and eye-opening book, and came at a perfect timing to me. It provides great insight on career prep with tips and recommendations from employers and headhunters themselves. If you're not completely clueless about the real world then you may find some tips common sense, but still they are important nonetheless. The rest are new, and overwhelming, as I hastily took notes of them and felt extra-stressed and under-prepared. It's good to have a guidance like this to know what you've done correctly and what can be improved, also to clarify some of the recruitment's "myths" so as to be more confident going into the real world. The tips and recommendations are surprisingly doable - you don't have to go out of your way to accomplish them.

I would recommend the best way to make use of this book: first, read the table of contents, and mark what you think you should improve. Then, read through the whole book quickly, and mark anything you find that you didn't know, or you should read more carefully. Finally, go back, find what you've marked, then read with your heart and take extensive notes on it. Personally, the most informative chapter for me was chapter 4, on networking, because I believe it is one of my weakest points.

If there's any downside to this book, it's very American based. Many tips can't be used unless you're in America, or in a developed country with a similar recruitment system as the U.S. It's hard out here for a girl in a developing world, but I guess I have to fight my way through ?

Recommend for all university students - it's never too late to start, and never too early to begin.

Ltorrealba says

This book teaches college students or very recent grads how to find their first real world job. I've had it on my reading list for about 7 years, making it about 7 years (or more) too late to be helpful to me. Also, it's pretty outdated at this point because of how much the internet and smart phones are changing the world. That being said, if you are the target audience, it may be helpful.

Rushmee Thapa says

The peculiar thing that I had not given any emphasis has been viewed in such a way, that could give 100% benefit. Getting from college to career is must read for graduates or post graduates student who want to be indulged into professional career.

Uriel Fuentes Cavazos says

I'm in my junior year of college and I'm starting to look into the job market. Reading this book taught me many useful tactics I can use to improve my job-searching process and my career. I have started to apply some and I would like to apply others. That is what I like of this book, it gives many straight forward tips to improve your job search. I really recommend this book to all college students, I believe it can give us a very good edge in the job market.

Bruno says

Lindsey's book outlines an array of useful tips that I have applied into my life and has helped me get into a much better mind set about job hunting and thinking about my career. From when I started reading this I have managed to get a job I am happy with. Clear and wide ranging in its content I would recommend this book for university students, the only way it could be better if it was based on UK not USA, the tips nevertheless are applicable.
