

GET THE JOB

Making the Most of a Temporary Job

How Short-Term Work Can Support Long-Term Goals

Temporary jobs aren't always glamorous — and they may not be your dream role — but they can serve a valuable purpose in your career. Whether you're between jobs, testing a new field or trying to gain experience, a temp role can offer more than just a paycheck.

With the right mindset, a short-term position can help you build skills, grow your network and even open doors to full-time opportunities.

TREAT IT LIKE A PERMANENT ROLE

Even if you know the job has an end date, show up with the same level of professionalism you'd bring to any full-time position. Arrive on time, stay engaged and do the work well.

Employers take notice of temporary workers who go above expectations. A strong performance could lead to an extension, a referral or a future offer — even if that wasn't originally part of the plan.

Temporary assignments are also a great way to practice workplace skills you might not use often, such as presenting in meetings, using new software or navigating different team dynamics.

STAY CURIOUS AND CONNECTED

Use the opportunity to learn as much as you can. Ask thoughtful questions, take note of how the organization runs and observe how people in different roles work together and work effectively and efficiently.

It's also smart to build relationships. Introduce yourself

to coworkers, offer help when you can and stay in touch after the assignment ends. These connections could lead to future job leads or valuable references.

You never know who might be impressed by your work — or who's quietly looking to fill a permanent role in another department.

KEEP YOUR GOALS IN FOCUS

While you're on assignment, continue applying to longer-term roles if that's your goal. Think of the temp job as a bridge — not a final destination. Use it to support your finances, keep your résumé active and maintain confidence while you pursue your next move.

When the assignment ends, include it on your résumé just like any other job. Be clear about the dates and employer, and highlight what you accomplished during that time.

Short-term jobs may not come with long-term guarantees, but they can still play a valuable part in your career story — especially when you approach them with purpose.



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