

GET THE JOB

Applying Again After a Rejection

When to Try Again — and When to Move On

Getting turned down for a job can be discouraging — especially if it felt like a great fit. But a rejection doesn't always mean the door is closed for good. In many cases, applying again later can make sense. The key is knowing when it's worth another shot.

If you're thinking about reapplying, timing, feedback and your own progress all play a role in the decision.

LOOK AT WHAT'S CHANGED

Start by asking: What's different now? If the company has reopened the same role within a short period and nothing has changed on your end, it's unlikely the outcome will be different.

But if several months have passed and you've gained new experience, improved your résumé or refined your approach, it may be worth trying again.

You should also consider whether this is a different role altogether. A new position might be a better match for your skills, even if your first attempt didn't go far.

REAPPLY WITH INTENTION

If you do decide to reapply,



take a fresh approach. Tailor your résumé and cover letter specifically to the new role, even if it seems similar to the one before.

In your application, you can briefly acknowledge your prior interest:

“I applied previously for a related position and appreciat-

ed learning more about your company. I'm excited to apply again, as I believe my recent experience makes me an even stronger candidate.”

Avoid sounding defensive or overly focused on the rejection. Keep the tone positive, forward-looking and focused on the value you now bring.

KNOW WHEN TO LET IT GO

In some cases, it's best to move on. If you've applied multiple times with no response — or if the company has clearly communicated that they won't be moving forward — it may be time to

focus your efforts in other places.

Rejections are part of the process, but they're also part of building resilience. Sometimes, the best opportunity is still ahead — and sometimes, applying again with a fresh perspective is exactly what opens the door.