

FREE JLA 10 STEP CAREER PROGRAMME

John Lees Associates
Careers Consultants
www.johnleescareers.com



Step 2: What is the right career for me?

Do you feel you want to do something different but you don't know what it is? For many people work is frustrating because it fails to match skills, values and attitudes – or simply leaves you under-engaged. Job instability or redundancy often make people think about doing a job they will enjoy. If you're going to put time and energy into finding a new role, you might as well do something that motivates and interests you, and makes an impact as far as an employer is concerned. In fact, this overlap is more likely to get you paid well and promoted in the future.

So, how about finding not just A job but the right job? – or at least a “stepping stone” role that gets you where you want to be in the next 12 months?

Checklist for working out what types of work would suit you:

- If you disliked your last job, was it the role, your team, the organisation, or the sector?
- What have you enjoyed studying most (academic courses, training events, or learning for fun)?
- What would you love to study for its own sake if you didn't need to work?
- What jobs done by friends fascinate you?
- What advertised jobs have attracted you?
- What topics do you enjoy reading about (newspapers, magazines, web sites)?
- Of all the jobs you have ever held, what was the most enjoyable, and why? What assignments or projects did you enjoy in the past?
- What topics do you enjoy talking about with friends?

- Think about a time when you had a great day at work. The sort of day where everything went well and you went home feeling a real “buzz”. Write down what you were doing, what you enjoyed and what you achieved on that day.
- If all jobs paid the same, what work would you do?
- If you could try someone else's job for a day, what would it be?
- If you won the lottery, played with the money for 2 years and then got bored, what would you do to occupy your time?

KNOW/DOING/BEING

KNOWING – review what you enjoy knowing about (try the House of Knowledge in How To Get A Job You'll Love). Look seriously at the things you have chosen to learn about in the past. What connections can you make between subjects you are interested in and fields of work?

DOING – Review your skills, focusing particularly on the skills you are good at AND enjoy using. Learn achievement stories to turn claims into evidence. Track down jobs where you can use these skills at least 70% of the week.

(Consider using the JLA Skill Cards to identify your motivated skills.)

BEING – What are your personal values, and how well are they expressed in the work you do? What kind of people do you like to be around? What kind of work feels valuable to *you* and worth getting up in the morning for.

OTHER STEPS IN THE 10 STEP CAREER PROGRAMME

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