

Is It Time for a Change in Your Career?

Is it time to change jobs? A career change does not have to be a negative experience. Only a small number of people are in love with their jobs – a career change can you the opportunity to take new risks and explore.

People consider career changes for a variety of reasons. Top on the list are employees who are **frustrated** in the workplace. Whether an employee is **unmotivated** in a current position or looking for a **new adventure** it is important to recognize when enough is enough and make changes toward a fresh start.

Top Reasons for Change:

1. The number one reason employees give for seeking a new job is **boredom** or **frustration** in their current position. These feelings can affect a person's work performance and lower production. *Do you really hate your job or is it just boring?*
2. **Money** is the second most popular motivator for career switchers. If an employee does not feel he or she is being paid for their total worth or wants to bring in more money it is time to make that fresh start.
3. Number three on the list of reasons people are in the market for new jobs is **location**. This can mean transferring to a location across the country because of lifestyle changes or family reasons. However, it can also mean looking for a position closer to home. Many employees are fed up with long commutes and rush hours.
4. There is more. **Benefits**, or a lack of benefits, can push people to seek new employment. Feeling **unappreciated** by management and discovering one's purpose also lead employees to change jobs. Moreover, in today's economy it is important to recognize the large influx of career switchers from layoffs.

Be Prepared

The time to change jobs does not have to be frightening. In fact, job seekers who are prepared will enjoy the challenge. Experts suggest that career switchers begin to look for alternate employment while still employed. Yet, that is not always possible.

If you are looking to change jobs, your first step is to **update your resume**. Make sure that your references, jobs, and education are up-to-date. Even if you are not looking to change jobs now it is a great idea to keep a current, updated resume available in case of a sudden layoff or other unforeseen occurrence.

Networking is a job seekers best friend. Every contact that a job seeker makes is one step closer to that next job. Your network can include previous or current co-workers, friends, family, and more. Social networking sites on the internet are offering great success to job seekers.

In addition, as with your resume, build your network before you need it, say the experts. Then you will immediately have access to **contacts** when you begin to look for a new career. Check out the article: "**Are you networking in all the right places**" for more information for tips on networking.

If you are unhappy in your current position, take time to discover what you really want to do before accepting a new position. *What are your interests? What types of jobs click with your personality?* Answering these questions is as important as your resume when it is time to change jobs. And remember, when enough is enough it is time to change jobs.

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