

Four steps to assess your next dream job

Finding the “perfect job” might be challenging, but these four steps can help you narrow down a role that fits you well and will bring you closer to your goals.

Why this matters

In today's ever-changing world of work, job security isn't guaranteed. Even if you're excelling in your role, change can happen when you least expect it. The sooner you accept this reality, the quicker you can take charge of your career journey.

So, whether you're worried about job uncertainty or just ready to take a more proactive approach, here's how you can get started.

1. Reflect on what inspires you

Take a moment to reconnect with what you truly enjoy about your work.

- What tasks energise you?
- What motivates you to show up every day?
- Who are the people you love collaborating with?
- What kinds of challenges excite you?
- Think about a recent accomplishment that made you proud – what made it stand out?

These questions might not have quick answers, but they're essential for uncovering what makes work meaningful for you.

2. Picture your dream job

Before diving into job boards, take some time to envision your ideal role. Let your imagination run free – this is your opportunity to dream big.

- Would you work in an office, remotely, or a mix of both?
- What would the workplace look and feel like?
- What kind of team or colleagues would you work with?
- How would you structure your day, and what tasks would fill your time?
- Who would you report to, and how would you like to be compensated?
- What recognition would make your efforts feel valued?

Don't worry if your answers seem unrealistic – just get your thoughts down. This is about defining what success looks like for you.



3. Take stock of your skills

Make a detailed list of your skills, breaking them into three categories:

1. Skills you excel at and enjoy using.
2. Skills you'd rather not use.
3. Skills you'd like to develop further.

This clarity will help you focus on opportunities that align with your strengths and interests.

4. Have conversations

Now that you've reflected and planned, it's time to get feedback. Share your ideas with trusted people around you, but don't stop there – reach out to individuals working in roles or industries that interest you.

- Ask for their insights into how your skills and experiences might fit.
- Seek advice on navigating career paths you're curious about.

These conversations – whether you call them networking or informational interviews – can open up new opportunities and ideas you hadn't considered.

Remember, there's no magic wand

There's no one-size-fits-all answer or shortcut to finding the right job. Tools like career assessments can provide helpful insights, but ultimately, it's up to you to research and make informed decisions about your next steps.

Why it's worth the effort

Job titles and responsibilities often vary between companies, and roles evolve with changes in technology and industry trends. By getting clear on what you enjoy and excel at, you can focus your search on opportunities that align with your unique vision of success.

The Bottom Line

Your career journey is yours to shape, and there's no single "right" answer. Remember, you're never locked into one path – if a job doesn't work out, you can always pivot.

These steps may take time and effort, but along the way, you'll discover more about yourself and meet incredible people who can inspire your next move. After all, it's often the journey – not just the destination – that makes the biggest impact.

