

Looking to Change Your Career Path? Don't Do It Until You've Read These 5 Tips

Changing careers is a big step. Here's how to plan your next big move and set yourself up for success.

5 Moves to Make Before Switching to a New Career

You might want to make a few important steps before jumping into a new career. Here's what you need to know.

Contemplating a Big Career Move? Here's How to Do It Wisely

Set yourself up for success in a new career by being proactive before you make the switch.

If you're young but still considering a career move, know that you aren't alone. According to a LinkedIn study, the average Millennial [changes their career four times](#) within the first ten years after college graduation. However, if you're passionate about your potential new career, then you'll want it to last. The best way to make sure that happens is to take a few smart steps before making the switch that can help you build a more solid career path in the future.



[Image source](#)

Consider Your Options

First things first: have you considered all the possible options you might have in your current career? Maybe you feel unfulfilled in your current job, or you don't believe that you and your position are right for each other. That doesn't necessarily mean that your current career path will never meet your professional needs.

It's crucial to consider the options you might have available in your current career – once you leave and enter a new field, it will be more challenging to go back. Ask yourself the following questions:

- Is there [room for advancement](#) and career development in my current career?
- Will a different office environment or a new position reignite the passion I once had?
- Will I have [regrets once I leave this industry](#)?
- Are finances and benefits (or lack thereof) playing a role in my decision?

If the answer to any of these questions is “yes,” then you may not want to take the leap just yet.

That's because all of these questions probe deeper into the *why* behind your decision to switch careers. You might feel bored with your current position, but that doesn't mean that there isn't something amazing waiting for you if you ask for it.

Before jumping ship, you should take some time to speak with your superiors. It's possible that a better position opened, or will open soon, and that you could be the perfect candidate. Or maybe your boss will be open to giving you a raise or additional benefits that you're currently lacking.

In other words, don't rule out anything. There was a time when you were excited to have this career, and a few simple changes and opportunities for career development might be all you need to feel passionate about it again.

Talk to Experts in Your New Industry



[Image source](#)

If you've taken time to evaluate your reasons for switching careers, then kudos to you! Once you've confirmed that it's the right choice for you, it's time to buckle down and start learning everything you can about your new career path.

The best way to do this is by seeking career help and business advice from top experts in that industry. Who better to give you some insider tips than people who have [built authority](#) in that field? Spending time asking questions and bouncing ideas off your point of contact can improve your understanding of your new industry, allowing you to better prepare yourself for what lies ahead.

Promeets has [experts in a broad range of industries](#) who can give you business advice and career help so that you can learn what it takes to succeed in your new career. They'll teach you how and where to

network for success, and give you insider knowledge to take your career to the next level. It's career development at its finest.

Set Your Goals

You wouldn't take a job before considering if it's the best match for you, right? But how will you know if it's right for you if you don't have [professional goals](#) set for yourself after listening to business advice from professionals?

Goals give you an outline to work with. They're things that matter to you in your professional life, whether they're goals you want to reach in a week or in a few years. These goals are what you should work toward in your new career, but you should have them in place before you leave your current job.

Use a journal, mind map, or any form of outlining that works best for you to jot down what you hope to achieve by switching careers. These might be goals like:

- I want to seek career guidance from a professional in my prospective industry within the next two weeks.
- I want to be comfortable in my new career within six months.
- I want to feel like I'm genuinely impacting this industry and becoming an authority within two years.
- I want to get a promotion within five years.

By doing this, you're giving yourself an actionable set of goals that you want to reach, which can help you stay motivated to prepare for the big move and keep your inspiration flowing once you make the switch.

Create a Solid Plan of Action



[Image source](#)

Your career change is likely to be much more successful if you create a [solid plan of action](#) before switching. Your plan of action should include everything from how much notice you give your current employer to what companies you'd consider working with.

This is where doing extensive research will come into play. You'll need to search for jobs within your new industry to find out what kind of people it's looking for and the qualifications they should have.

Figure out what [transferable skills](#) you have that could complement your potential new position. These are skills you should continue developing as much as possible so that you'll have even more leverage on a future resume.

If necessary, take on some new tasks or training at your current job that can transfer to your new career. Certifications and experience can help boost your resume.

Start Networking Now

Networking is vital to virtually every professional. In fact, a [2016 survey](#) revealed that about 85 percent of jobs are filled via networking either face-to-face or through social networks. For your networking efforts to have the most impact, you should start networking in your prospective industry *before* you cross over.

One helpful thing to ask the industry experts you connect with is how best to network in that niche. They should be able to offer you guidance in determining whether social networking or in-person networking works best in the industry and may even be able to point you toward some of their colleagues.

Taking these few, but crucial, steps before making the leap to a new career can jump-start your success so that you can leave your job on a good note and move toward a bright professional future.