

Searching for a career on the Internet? You must know the pros and cons

You've installed a fax/modem line within your computer, subscribed to an Internet provider and are now ready to go online. But wait, there is more you need to know about using this technology. Are you familiar with the information superhighway and all of the search possibilities? An enormous amount of information is at your fingertips, but how do you use it effectively? We offer some pros and cons toward your job search on the World Wide Web.

Net job search pros

- There is immediate access to nationwide employment classifieds with salary information as well as the company profile. That information can help determine your actual interest in the corporation.
- Your resume can be posted on a national database so corporations and recruiting firms can view your experience and contact you directly for their available positions.
- The search can be done at any time of the day or night from your home or office.
- Any number of resumes can be sent over the modem without ever dialing a fax machine or printing and sending resumes by mail.
- All follow-up information can be done online.

But on the other hand ...

- There is no actual human contact. You don't get to speak to anyone to "sell" your past success and tout the strength that you can bring to the hiring organization or even discuss the highlights of your resume. Your resume must be your only selling feature.
- Not all of the job postings within organizations are current job openings. Job listings need to be updated on a continual basis (the position you are applying for may have been filled a month ago but the Webmaster hasn't updated the home page).
- The cost of Internet service varies, some with unlimited access and some with a per-hour cost after you have exceeded the "free access time period."

In this Information Age, the Internet is an exciting tool to assist you in your job search as well as helping you follow and keep abreast of success within corporations and corporate happenings.

Remember, too, that not everybody has access to the Internet, and you still must communicate through faxes and voice mail (these developments were the "latest and greatest" 10 years ago). Don't be afraid of exploring this new technology while still utilizing the old technology.

Combine use of the Internet along with the traditional job will not only enhance your career search, but it will be an eye-opener to the infinite number of job opportunities available not only locally, but across the country.