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How to Turn a Seasonal Gig into Your Full-Time Job

The holidays are people's favorite time of year for many reasons, but if you're looking for a job, you're about to find another great thing to love about the season. December happens to be a great time for job hunters. Because of the increase of spending on everything from gifts to party supplies in the name of the holidays, businesses often spend weeks leading up to the holidays hiring extra workers in order to help with the traffic. While some of these gigs are part-time and won't last past January 1st, it's not uncommon for people to roll their seasonal job into a full-time position come the new year. But first, you have to land that perfect holiday job.

Acing the Interview

If you have an interview with a company, the keys to doing a great job are preparation, practice, and a little research. For example, research the position for which you applied, as well as the business itself, so you walk in knowing exactly what they expect from you. Know popular interview questions for seasonal jobs and the best ways to answer them:

- This job will only last 'X' weeks; why are you interested?
- What are your plans once the season is over?
- How flexible is your schedule?
- What do you know about our company and our products and services?
- Where do you see yourself in the future?

Rope a friend or loved one into helping you practice for your interview. Have them ask the commonly asked questions as well as any other test questions the two of you can come up with. Don't be afraid to

have your loved one throw you some curveballs with unexpected questions. The more you practice, the more confident you will be. When it comes to impressing a potential employer, making a great first impression with your self-confidence is priceless.

High-Paying Seasonal Jobs to Seek

Whether you're trying to parlay a part-time gig into a career or you just want to make some extra money before the new year begins, you want to look for the jobs that have the best pay. Fortunately, there are a lot of high-paying seasonal jobs available. Retail and department stores often hire more customer service representatives this time of year. If you're an expert in a particular school subject, advertise as a tutor and help kids pass finals. And if there's a market for these services where you live, advertise as a personal shopper and help busy families fill the space under their trees. Finally, being a Santa isn't something you can roll into a full-time job, but Santa's can earn significant money for their services, which can be a huge help making ends meet during this time of year.

Tips for Landing a Holiday Job

When it comes to getting hired during the holidays, one of the best things to take into the process is energy. The hectic nature of December means employers are looking for help that can match it with enthusiasm. Furthermore, aim to reach the highest expectations people have for their employees. Apply for jobs early and follow-up interviews with thank you emails. Show interviewers your competence and confidence while demonstrating how you will be the ideal employee. Finally, make sure all your bases are covered by having an appropriate social media presence. You don't want to end up like these people who lost their jobs over social media mistakes.

Starting Your Own Business

The holidays may be a terrific time to start your own business. For example, with so many people making purchases online, you can start an ecommerce business. Create a business plan and figure out how you're going to market your products. If you need help finding customers or designing your website, you can work with web design or lead generation companies. Find experienced and well-reviewed professionals through online job boards.

If you need help funding your venture, research whether you're eligible for any small business grants. When completing a grant application, include as many details as possible, such as your financials and marketing and branding strategies.

A busy economy during the holidays means companies are looking for help to handle the traffic. Whether you want to land a gig that you can turn into a full-time job or you just want to find some parttime work to help cover holiday expenses, it's important to treat job hunting during December with as much professionalism and enthusiasm as you would with any other application process. Prepare and practice for your interview, seek outside retail for high paying gigs, and show the interviewer how you will be a model employee when they hire you.