

2010 Job Outlook - BGG Readers Poll

What is the one thing that technology workers and job seekers must do in order to successfully advance their careers in 2010?		
		Response Count
		90
<i>answered question</i>		90
<i>skipped question</i>		16

Response Text		
1	Find jobs first if possible	Dec 13, 2009 1:36 PM
2	move to another country, sad but true	Dec 13, 2009 1:36 PM
3	Keep up with trends.	Dec 13, 2009 1:54 PM
4	<p>Continue, Continue to study new fields and niche technologies quickly. This knowledge isn't gained in most colleges or specialty technology schools yet because it's new. Still these schools do provide value because the foundation of technical knowledge must be gain intially via traditional higher education.</p> <p>One can usually find documentation on all technologies on the internet and in some text textbooks copyrighted within the last year or so. Then position yourself as an expert based initially solely on documentation/working/textbook knowledge factoring in actual experience apocryphally. In addition, executive recruiters must support this premise and stretch themselves to think outside of the box also. I would recommend seeking consultant positions rather the full time employment intially to optain experience and get hired quickly so as not to get discouraged. Individuals need a strategy for competitive advantages similiar to how companies compete against one another.</p> <p>For example today, Sharepoint is increasing in popularity, therefore one could study everything about Sharepoint, install it on one's laptop, learn how to customize it, program in it, etc,etc. Once a person is proficient and can do the job if hired he'll succeed because he or she is not speaking in a interview saying give me an opportunity and I'll learn and do a good job. Employers aren't so interested in you learning but now we are in a era of doing!</p> <p>The critical mistake one makes is become a expert in one technology and think this will continue to provide a good paying job for himself without expanding to learning new languages, environments, etc. Don't pigeon hole oneself into this mythical thinking. Lazyiness and complicatency will get you nothing in this life, continue to learn and evolve. History teaches us by studying the Dodo bird. Think about these statements I often here and you be the judge.</p> <p>"I've been doing mainframe programming for many years, and I'm a die heart mainfrmer"</p> <p>"Many Cobol programmers are dying or retiring, therefore the old systems will eventually need programmers and I'm waiting and then I'll get a job"</p>	Dec 13, 2009 2:06 PM

Response Text		
5	Understand how disruptive technologies like Cloud, Virtualization, Storage, and Converged Networks are taking hold in the industry quickly. This IS the leading edge and where the new opportunities will be. Understanding how to deploy and secure these new platforms is key.	Dec 13, 2009 2:31 PM
6	Put an end to cheap foreign labor off-shoring and in-shoring practices.	Dec 13, 2009 3:02 PM
7	Network	Dec 13, 2009 3:13 PM
8	Update skills and get certified in them	Dec 13, 2009 3:32 PM
9	Retrain	Dec 13, 2009 3:38 PM
10	explain their value in business terms	Dec 13, 2009 3:57 PM
11	Continue to grow and evolve in the industry as it pertains to educational opportunities and networking with others in the industry.	Dec 13, 2009 4:10 PM
12	Get out of IT. I'm doing it. A hobby is not a career.	Dec 13, 2009 5:13 PM
13	Learn everything under the sun to get a "decent" job... sadly.	Dec 13, 2009 5:18 PM
14	Stay up to date with training/whitepapers. Also identify key skills in technology such as SAN and scripting.	Dec 13, 2009 5:32 PM
15	Network	Dec 13, 2009 5:34 PM
16	Network with other IT professionals	Dec 13, 2009 5:56 PM
17	Become more independent -- corporate institutions are NOT your friend(s)...	Dec 13, 2009 6:32 PM
18	Stay abreast of the latest trends and technologies and translate into innovative solutions	Dec 13, 2009 7:03 PM
19	Continue to learn new technologies and keep their skills updated.	Dec 13, 2009 7:50 PM
20	realize that technology controls them. Not! the other way.	Dec 13, 2009 8:30 PM
21	Start a business of their own on the side. If it starts to get successful, then leave employment.	Dec 13, 2009 9:17 PM
22	Networking and continue education	Dec 13, 2009 11:30 PM
23	Create grassroots campaigns and support change to lobby Congress to help stimulate and protect IT jobs.	Dec 13, 2009 11:49 PM
24	REmain current and add new skills every two years	Dec 14, 2009 12:05 AM
25	Good question. Keep abreast of skills and align oneself with an company that is not totally offshoring.	Dec 14, 2009 12:15 AM
26	Manage their own carrers.	Dec 14, 2009 2:09 AM
27	Learn latest technologies	Dec 14, 2009 2:52 AM
28	keep adding to their job knowledge not only in their field but learn new things also	Dec 14, 2009 3:12 AM
29	Network with other IT professionals	Dec 14, 2009 3:27 AM
30	Get required training!	Dec 14, 2009 5:11 AM
31	obtain a master degree since its becoming stay on top of technology changes	Dec 14, 2009 12:06 PM
32	keep employed	Dec 14, 2009 4:06 PM
33	Practice their skills	Dec 14, 2009 4:35 PM
34	Continuing with education	Dec 14, 2009 5:28 PM
35	Continue to update skills	Dec 14, 2009 5:53 PM
36	network, network, network...join and be active in various associations and contribute to or create blogs	Dec 14, 2009 8:07 PM
37	Know somebody who can get them in the door.	Dec 15, 2009 8:07 AM
38	Get certified	Dec 16, 2009 2:45 AM
39	Enhance their skills to become marketable	Dec 16, 2009 2:26 PM
40	Continue to skills updated and fresh, don't pigeon hole yourself into a role or particular technology.	Dec 16, 2009 10:11 PM

Response Text		
41	IT really depends on the individuals skills. For technology workers, they need to keep on top of new technology. For job seekers like myself, don't have a closed mind, try to keep entry level position into the IT industry and take it from there.	Dec 18, 2009 1:29 PM
42	Balance excellent technical skills with soft skills.	Dec 22, 2009 9:57 PM
43	Keeping up with the changing technology wanted by some many companies.	Dec 28, 2009 2:27 AM
44	Be aware of what is going on in our industry as it relates to their area of focus in IT	Dec 28, 2009 3:46 PM
45	Assess their skill sets and upgrade as needed...scratch that- NETWORK, NETWORK, NETWORK!!!!	Dec 29, 2009 3:02 PM
46	Continue Education and Certification.	Jan 18, 2010 3:32 PM
47	Get continuous (quarterly, monthly - period not less than 30 days no more than 90 days) FEEDBACK on your performance.	Jan 18, 2010 3:45 PM
48	have both a degree an certification	Jan 18, 2010 3:50 PM
49	Lobby against H1-B visas.	Jan 18, 2010 4:20 PM
50	Get out of IT.	Jan 18, 2010 5:17 PM
51	They must go back and take classes for the newest technology.	Jan 18, 2010 5:39 PM
52	Continuing Education, keep getting certifications and study to become more diverse with your background and IT skills.	Jan 18, 2010 5:51 PM
53	Sell your self	Jan 18, 2010 8:58 PM
54	Become more business focused and determine to how to meet / exceed customer expectations. In regards to customer IT must become more knowledgeable (understanding their objectives, issues, and opportunities and why) with near immediate customer, the business users, the core business and its purpose, the companies value chain, and the companies extended supply chain and all its surrounding dynamics	Jan 18, 2010 9:26 PM
55	The ability to rub people the right way, not the wrong way. Making friends on the job so you have a big reference/referral network.	Jan 19, 2010 2:58 AM
56	Increase their skills	Jan 19, 2010 4:32 AM
57	Show value they bring to an organization. Value that cannot be sourced externally.	Jan 19, 2010 3:07 PM
58	Stay up to date with their skills.	Jan 19, 2010 4:29 PM
59	more education in various current technologies	Jan 20, 2010 4:11 PM
60	Stay current	Jan 21, 2010 3:24 AM
61	Educate and certify their skills	Jan 27, 2010 6:43 AM
62	Keep current and keep adding to there IT toolbox the skills to be a diverse IT person. It's not enough to be just a programmer, you have to be a programmer, DBA, systems ad, network manager, and security specialist.	Jan 28, 2010 11:08 PM
63	Upgrade technical skills - start looking into Linux and open source	Feb 15, 2010 6:59 PM
64	Improve technical skills.	Feb 18, 2010 5:58 PM
65	Keep updating their skills	Feb 21, 2010 12:56 PM
66	Aggressive training and development	Feb 21, 2010 2:02 PM
67	Be educated on the current application trends and one way to do this is to go back to school and take a class.	Feb 21, 2010 4:15 PM
68	Keep learning new technology	Feb 21, 2010 4:24 PM
69	Diversify their skill sets	Feb 21, 2010 4:32 PM
70	eliminate H-1B program	Feb 21, 2010 4:52 PM
71	Be multifunctional. The era of the one trick poney is over.	Feb 21, 2010 5:56 PM
72	Continuing education and training.	Feb 21, 2010 6:34 PM
73	Continually retool.	Feb 21, 2010 7:42 PM

Response Text		
74	Get overall understanding of the needs of their organization. Behave as a generalist; get more business education; acquire a mentor with 'real' power and political pull within your company.	Feb 21, 2010 9:17 PM
75	Find an inside connection.	Feb 21, 2010 9:47 PM
76	keep learning	Feb 21, 2010 9:48 PM
77	Become a jack of all trades. Be able to learn and use new tech that will benefit the corporate bottom line.	Feb 21, 2010 10:38 PM
78	Networking. We must network and mentor each other during these times. We do not do that enough amongst each other and we can miss opportunities.	Feb 22, 2010 12:28 AM
79	reduce h1B	Feb 22, 2010 1:37 AM
80	continue to update your skills often and stay rooted in the current industry technology	Feb 22, 2010 2:00 AM
81	non tech	Feb 22, 2010 7:01 AM
82	NETWORK	Feb 22, 2010 2:22 PM
83	change out of IT	Feb 22, 2010 2:51 PM
84	bleach their skin and change their name, address, and body so that they can transform into a white person. The one thing that technology workers and job seekers must do in order to successfully advance their careers in 2010 is to overcome discrimination and racism.	Feb 22, 2010 4:08 PM
85	Go into management. As a laid off worker companies are wanted the working staff to be able to be the manager and the worker bee. They are asking for 8-10 yrs experience minimal. They are consistently looking for managers.	Feb 22, 2010 5:27 PM
86	continue to obtain knowledge	Feb 22, 2010 7:17 PM
87	Stay on top of skills	Feb 23, 2010 6:33 AM
88	Networking	Feb 23, 2010 5:46 PM
89	Stay current.	Feb 24, 2010 1:22 AM
90	During this tough time I think the most important thing is to think out of the box. Look at the organization you work in and see how you can bring value to the organization. Get out of the regular day to day activities you might get used to and get out there and make some things happen; be innovative, not afraid to learn something new, and push yourself just a little bit more.	Feb 25, 2010 3:21 AM