



EARN IT, SPEND IT

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71% OF BRITISH EMPLOYEES WOULD CHOOSE TO STAY LATE ON VALENTINE'S DAY TO DEAL WITH AN URGENT INQUIRY. WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO ROMANCE?

Lloyds TSB Business Insurance survey, 2008



SUCCESS CHECK: QUITTING WITH CLASS

You've been aching to quit for months and now you've finally been offered a great new role. What a relief! But now you have to tell your boss you're leaving. As much as you want to speak your mind, restrain yourself. It is important to leave a job the same way you started – with class, dignity, and professionalism.

KEEP IT DISCREET

Tell your boss first and only after the new job is 100 per cent yours. Your boss should hear that you are quitting from you, so avoid gabbing with your co-workers about it first. And never tell anyone at the office that you are thinking about quitting or are in talks with another company. If the deal falls through, you will face nothing but embarrassment and you might be fired. Don't say a word until you have signed an agreement and have an official start date.

TELLING TALES

Stick to your story. When asked why you are leaving, tell your boss you're ready for more responsibility and feel that there is more

opportunity for growth at your new job. Be kind and don't blame anyone for your decision to leave. Tell your co-workers the same thing. If your boss finds out you've been telling other people different reasons for quitting, it could leave behind some bad feelings.

FULL STEAM UNTIL THE END

Make sure you maintain the quality of your work after you give notice. Remember that you are still accountable for everything you do up until 5pm on your very last day. It might be harder than ever to stay on task, but it's worthwhile staying on top of each and every one of your responsibilities until the very end.

KEEP THE DOOR OPEN

Don't burn any bridges. The world is smaller than you think and you never know when you are going to need a reference or a favour or your old job back. So don't bad mouth anyone at the office and don't brag to your co-workers about your great new job. If you have a good relationship with your boss, then send a personal note thanking them for their efforts.

SMOOTH TRANSITION

Do your best to make sure the office can survive without you. Leave your desk, paperwork, and any files organised. If you need to train a replacement, do so to your best ability.

I WANT HER JOB!

PAULA BARHAM, WEDDING PLANNER AND DIRECTOR OF WEDDINGINC

WHAT DOES YOUR JOB INVOLVE?

As a wedding planner, I have the privilege to work from home and plan the most amazing wedding a bride could imagine. I give my bride various options and give her the freedom to choose whatever she desires. As a wedding trainer now, I also inspire women and give them the tools on setting up their own business.

HOW DID YOU GET YOUR BREAK?

I started out as a wedding planner for many years, and went from planning four weddings a month to 12 a month in Sydney. I realised the need for wedding planning was far beyond what I could do single-handedly, so I decided to formulate a structured course to train people to start up their own business in wedding planning. Today I run my course at community colleges, hotels, resorts, and for people who are eager to start their own business.

WHAT'S A 9TO5 DAY LIKE FOR YOU?

I base myself in Sydney and run workshops most days training wedding planners. I love meeting people who have a dream and passion for this exciting industry.

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST MISCONCEPTIONS OF THE INDUSTRY?

Lots of people think wedding planning is for the rich and famous, or that it doesn't suit Australians. Wedding planners are supposed to save their bride money. They negotiate with suppliers and get most things at wholesale price. A good wedding planner ends up being a free service for the bride!

DID YOU HIT THE BOOKS?

I started out with no formal training. There wasn't a structured course so I decided to

structure my own wedding training course and share lots of practical advice for my clients. Today Wedding Inc is the most sought after qualification in Australia.

WHAT INSPIRES YOUR WORK?

Seeing how successful the ladies from my training workshops have become. I love it!

WHAT SORT OF PERSON SUITS THIS JOB?

Someone who is passionate about helping people in a completely unselfish way. You also need to be a people person, calm and most importantly self-motivated.

ANY ADVICE TO THEM?

Write down your goal don't settle for anything else. Unless one is committed, there is hesitancy. Once you decide on your career change, give 100 per cent and you'll see great results!

