

So, what are 'Employability Skills?'



Employability is about having strong **soft skills** and a **professional attitude**, as well as relevant qualifications. Here's how you can become more employable for the job market of the future.

Employability can be defined as the skills, knowledge and attitudes that help people to get a job and to move between jobs. The 'knowledge' aspect and job-specific skills may seem the most concrete and receive the most attention – for example in terms of what qualifications are required for a particular job. However, while it's important for applicants to meet any specific qualification requirements for a vacancy (for example subject, level of study or grades) this isn't ultimately what will get them hired.

Candidates' soft skills, attitudes and experiences outside the classroom, combined with their level of research into the job and employer, are what make them stand out from others with similar qualifications. Employers' recruitment processes typically focus on assessing these, to see what candidates can offer beyond the subjects and grades listed on their initial application.

Employability skills

So what are the Top 10 Employability skills employers are looking for?

- commercial awareness
- communication
- teamwork
- negotiation and persuasion
- problem solving
- leadership
- organisation
- perseverance and motivation
- the ability to work under pressure
- confidence.

