

RESUME BASICS





www.wfbc.org ceinfo@bouldercounty.org

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What is a Resume?

The short and simple answer to the question "What is a Resume?" is: a resume is a paper to help you secure an interview. The Career Center at DePaul University in Illinois states "The purpose of a resume is to market yourself to employers, by succinctly summarizing your education, experience, and skills, ultimately aiming to convince employers to invite you to interview" (DePaul University).

Overall, a resume is a tool that you need to have in order to compete in today's competitive workforce.

Resume Tips & Tricks

- Prioritize the content of your resume to fit the position you are applying for
- Use a 1" margin on top and sides and keep it to 1-2 pages
- Keep your formatting style consistent (i.e. use periods at the end of every line, or don't use them at all)
- Use an easy-to-read font such as Times New Roman, Ariel, or Calibri; 11-12 point
- Put your name in bold first, by itself
- Use a professional email address that includes your name (jane.doe@gmail.com)
- Use bullet points for phrases
- Repeat keywords from the job descriptions
- Start each phrase with a past-tense action verb (unless current, then use present tense action verb)
- Write from a 3rd person perspective. Avoid the words "I", "Me", "My"
- Focus on accomplishments and measurable results: Dollar amounts, units of production, percentages, benefit to the employer
- Include recent education; Include HS Diploma if that is highest level; Include B.A.; Include Masters only if relevant to job
- Layout should be pleasing to the eye; keep the ratio of white space to text balanced
- Fix typos and grammatical errors: Use spell check, proofread from a hard copy, have others proofread, then proofread again out loud before sending

Parts of a Resume

There is not one right way to do a resume. In fact, you will want to tailor every resume you create to the position you are applying for. This means that a resume you submit for one job, might look a little different from another resume you submit for a different job. Here are some common resume parts that you might want to consider adding to your resume. Please remember that there are many more possibilities for resume sections. These are just some examples.

Header

• Every resume needs to have your First and Last Name, Your Current Address, a Professional Email Address and a Phone Number

Objective Statement

- An objective tells employers why you are taking time to write a resume. It is usually 1 to 3 lines of text. Make it easy to read and demonstrate that you are a good fit for the position you are applying for.
- Helpful for young adults and potentially for individuals transitioning careers.

OR

Professional Profile/Professional Summary

- A Personal Profile is a more detailed and lengthy version of an objective. A Personal Profile is typically best for someone with 5+ years of work experience.
- A Personal Profile typically contains the title of your profession, years of experience in an industry & a summary of your skills and abilities related to the position you are applying for.

Skills/Strengths

- Skills sections help set you apart from other candidates. Skills don't have to be skills you have developed at the workplace. Skills or strengths come from all areas of our lives.
- What are you good at? Are you fluent in another language? Are you always organized and on time? These are the skills and strengths that you might consider listing on your resume.

Work History/Internship History/Work Experience

- Work History section is one of the most important parts of your resume. The information you will want to include in this section are:
 - o Your Job Title and the Company or Organization You Worked For
 - Dates You Worked at that specific Company or Organization
 - What you did or accomplished at that organization (Bullet Points)

Job Title, Company, City, ST

Volunteer Work/Community Involvement

- The Volunteer Work section is a great place to demonstrate experience you have gained by volunteering.
- If you do not have a lot of work history, but have volunteer experience, consider listing your volunteer work, much like you would for work history. Describe which organization you volunteered for, the dates you volunteered and what you did for that organization.

Volunteer Title, Organization, City, ST

Date range

Date range

Education

- The education section should list your highest degree first and relevant classes if applicable.
- Give yourself credit for partial education make it clear if you did not complete it.

Types of Resumes

There are two common types or styles of resumes in today's workplace. The first common type or style is the Chronological Resume. The second common type is the Functional Resume. You will want to choose the style of resume that best fits your career situation and the job you are applying for.

Both resume styles will have some resume parts in common. Both styles need to include a work history section OR a place to demonstrate where you have developed these skills at.

Chronological Resume

The Chronological Resume presents your work experience in *reverse* chronological order. You will list your most current position at the top of your work history section and work your way down to the least current position you have held.

Chronological Resumes are great for job seekers who are applying for entry level positions or job seekers who are searching for positions in the field they currently work in or have past experience in.

Functional Resume

The Functional Resume frames a resume towards core competencies or areas of expertise a job seeker has.

Functional Resumes are a good option for job seekers who are looking to change career fields or have gaps in employment.

Combination Resume

The Combination Resume is a combination between the Chronological Resume & Functional Resume.

It allows a job seeker to demonstrate key skill or core competencies AND demonstrate how past job positions they have held are related to the position they are applying for. Using a Combination Resume format can showcase skills without raising the red flags that a Functional Resume can for employers.

	Degree, School, City, ST Dates	Education	Bullet Point 4	Bullet Point 3	Bullet Point 2	Job II, Company, City, ST Dates Bullet Point 1		Bullet Point 4	Bullet Point 3	Bullet Point 2	Bullet Point 1	Job I, Company, City, ST Dates	work experience		- 5711 -		• SKII 2	• Skill 1	Shorter Skills Section	Professional Profile OR Objective	Header	Chronological
Degree, School, City, ST Dates	Bullet Point 1 Bullet Point 2	Job II, Company, City, ST Dates	Bullet Point 2		Job I. Company. City. ST Dates	Work Experience	• Skill 3	• Skill 2	Skill 1	Category III	• Skill 3	• Skill 2	• Skill 1	Category II	• Skill 3	Skill 2	• Skill 1	Category I	Longer Skills Section	Professional Profile OR Objective	Header	Combo
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6

Chronological Resume Example

Gail Garcia

525 Longmont Avenue Longmont, CO 80503 (720) 555-5555 • gail.garcia@gmail.com

Profile

Customer service professional with a positive attitude and strong organizational skills to provide quality service to both patrons and business.

Skills and Languages

- Fluent in English and Spanish
- Strong communication skills with a focus on customer service •
- Excellent team player with the ability to work with a wide variety of clients and customers

Work Experience

YMCA, Lafavette, CO

Day Camp Support Specialist

- Assisted with morning check-in and on-site registration and supervised children
- Communicated essential information to parents/guardians, ensured all camp policies and procedures • were being adhered to
- Filed, managed, and organized data

Community College of Denver, Denver, CO

Receptionist, Office of Student Life

- Ran school food bank and Lending Library; verified eligibility, provided policy rules, and distributed materials, entered and filed confidential data
- Assisted students with finding reading material and directed students to departments on campus
- Answered an average of 20 incoming calls on a multi-line phone and transferred calls
- Operated printer/copier/fax machine; opened and closed Student Life office following department • policies
- Assisted students with finding reading material in Lending Library and called to inform students of overdue library books; delivered campus mail to school departments

Volunteer Work

Chapter Leader, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Auraria Campus, Denver, CO	6/2018 – present
Retail Associate, Birds of Prey Foundation, Louisville, CO	5/2015 – 7/2018
Kids Ministry Leader, Flatirons Community Church, Lafayette, CO	7/2015 – 8/2016

Education

Associate of Arts, Business Designation (3.57 GPA)

Community College of Denver, Denver, CO

Courses Completed: Introduction to Business, Public Speaking, English Composition 1 & 2, College Algebra, Music Appreciation, Introduction to Philosophy, Introduction to Psychology, and Introduction to Criminal Justice

6/2016 - 12/2019

8/2015 - 5/2016

Anticipated Graduation: May 2019

MARIE CLARK

987 Boulder Boulevard, Boulder, CO 80304 860-555-5555 ● mclark@gmail.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

Polished, professional customer service representative offering:

- Eight years of experience providing customer support in busy call center environments
- An unwavering commitment to customer service, with the ability to build productive relationships, resolve complex issues and win customer loyalty
- Strategic relationship-building skills including listening attentively, solving problems creatively, and using tact and diplomacy to find common ground to achieve win-win outcomes

EXPERIENCE

Customer Service Representative

ABC Utility Company, Boulder, CO

2014-Present

2010-2014

- Calmed angry callers, repaired trust, located resources for problem resolution and designed bestoption solutions. Resolved an average of 550 inquiries in any given week and consistently met performance benchmarks in all areas (speed, accuracy, volume)
- Interfaced daily with internal partners in accounting, field services, new business, operations and consumer affairs divisions.
- Managed a high-volume workload including customer inquiries, complaints, and billing questions within a deadline-driven environment.
- Became the lead "go-to" person for particularly challenging calls as one of the company's primary mentors/trainers of both new and established employees.
- Helped company attain the highest customer service ratings as determined by external auditor. Earned 100% marks in all categories including communication skills, listening skills, problem resolution and politeness.
- Completed voluntary customer service training to learn ways to enhance customer satisfaction and improve productivity.

Customer Service Agent

DEF Insurance Company, Hartford, CT

- Used consultative selling techniques to provide leads for telesales personnel that improved improving lead-generation and sales-tracking techniques and resulted an 8% sales increase.
- Provided quotes and executed online policy changes for auto, home and excess liability.
- Handled incoming calls from policyholders, responded to inquiries, and resolved problems.
- Recognized as "#1 Customer Service Rep" (out of 20 reps in division) in fall 2007. Ranking was based on accuracy, customer service, duration of calls and availability.
- Co-developed on-the-job training program that reduced training time from eight weeks to five.

EDUCATION

Diploma, XYZ High School, Hartford, CT

Susie Sample

123 Main Street Longmont, CO 80501 303-111-1111 • ssample@gmail.com

OBJECTIVE

Obtain a position utilizing strong customer service and strategic thinking to contribute to the company's growth and success

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Customer Service Skills

- Effectively dealt with customers concerns and complaints, both in person and by phone
- Worked with a diverse customer population
- Committed to excellent service and customer satisfaction

Computer Skills

- Knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint
- Entered the confidential information of 500 job fair applicants into Workforce Boulder County's Connecting Colorado data system
- Proficient in graphic design Adobe programs and applications: Photoshop CS2, Illustrator CS2 and Design CS2

Cash Handling

- Operated a computerized cash register, accepting cash/credit/debit and travelers checks
- Processed store and vendor coupons; performed transaction voids, refunds and exchanges
- Reconciled cash and receipts to register totals at end of shift

Related Skills

- Well organized and highly efficient
- Reliable, excellent attendance record
- Attention to detail, ensure tasks are completed correctly and on time

WORK HISTORY

Receiver, Macy's Department Store, Boulder, COJune 2017 – currentHouse Cleaning, Independent Contractor, Boulder, COFebruary 2015- currentData Entry, Internship, Workforce Boulder County, Boulder, COSummer 2014- 2015

EDUCATION

Criminal Justice Associates, Front Range Community College Longmont, CO	Anticipated Graduation Spring 2019
High School Diploma, Arapahoe Ridge High School	

High School Diploma, Arapahoe Ridge High School Boulder, CO

May 2014

Chris Smith

3535 Job Lane Lafayette, CO 80026 303-555-1212 • csmith@gmail.com

OBJECTIVE

Warehouse position for a highly motivated quick learner with a strong work ethic utilizing extensive computer skills and abilities to problem solve independently and multi-task effectively.

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Warehouse Skills

- Operated labeling machine and ensured the proper placement of each bottle entering industrial labeling machine.
- Hand labeled merchandise for foreign export.
- Sorted and organized incoming products according to specification on spreadsheet.
- Read and fulfilled orders to be shipped.
- Packaged product and boxed for shipment.
- Operated manual and electric pallet jacks.

Customer Service

- Covered front desk duties at Computer Common at IT offices; answered phones, responded to emails, reset student login passwords, and assisted students with questions.
- Assisted students with computer related issues.
- Communicated effectively with teammates, facility members and distributors.
- Kept detailed daily logs of actions, requests, and repairs taken.

Computer Skills

- Proficient in software programs: Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint 2007 and 2010.
- Skilled in operating systems: Windows XP / 7, Linux, and Macintosh
- Evaluated, diagnosed and repaired computer failures.
- Optimized outdated computers: installed updated hardware, installed Operating Systems and Drivers following hardware specifications, and increased overall operation efficiency.
- Performed routine preventative maintenance.
- Researched, purchased and assembled tower computer from scratch.

EDUCATION

General Education Diploma, Workforce Boulder County, Boulder, CO

CERTIFICATES

Computer Hardware A+, Front Range Community College, Longmont, CO	Dec. 2016
Networking+, Front Range Community College, Longmont, CO	May 2015

WORK HISTORYStudent Technician, Front Range Community College, Longmont, COFeb. 2017 – PresentWarehouse Special Projects, Avery Brewery, Boulder, CO2013 - 2015

VOLUNTEER

Community Service: 300 hours, Boy Scouts of America Troop #78, Boulder, CO 2006-2014

CLUBS

Tabletop Club, Front Range Community College, Longmont, CO FIRST Robotics Club, Fairview High School, Boulder, CO Math, Science, and Computer Clubs, NICHE Home School Group, Boulder, CO

Combination Resume Example

Jim Sample

5755 Central Ave. Boulder, CO 80301 303.555.1212 James.sample@gmail.com

WAREHOUSE FOREMAN

Over 5 years of manufacturing and warehouse experience. Able to adapt to new environments and operations seeks an opportunity to join a new employer within the commutable area.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Implemented inventory control processes and maintained OSHA safe work environments
- Drove forklifts and company trucks to transport raw materials
- Kept maintenance logs and performed basic preventive maintenance \$1.5 million of machinery.

Maintenance Skills

Warehouse Experience

- Drove forklifts and company trucks to transport raw materials.
- Repaired diesel and gasoline engines and small appliances.

Supervisory Experience

- Supervised a team of 5 shipping and receiving staff.
- Received 3-6 deliveries and routed deliver trucks to correct receiving bays.
- Assisted with new worker orientation and training for 10 new hires.

EXPERIENCE

Ryan Foods Boulder, CO Production Worker	2018 - Present
• Unloaded daily deliveries and verified accuracy of inventory.	
• Fed raw product into machinery and cleaned machinery to prevent workplace hazards or downtime.	
ARO Tools Boulder, CO	2017 - 2018
Assembly Line	
 Ensured raw materials were on hand to improve production efficiency. 	
• Met or exceeded daily quotas within specifications.	
Fantom Industries Granite City, IL Factory Worker	2015 - 2016
 Ensured equipment was in operational order through continual monitoring and daily shift inspections. Responded to issues with machinery and contacted technician when appropriate. 	
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	
Goodwill Industries Boulder, CO Maintenance Volunteer	2016 - 2018
• Repaired minor plumbing and performed furnace maintenance annually.	
• Tested electronic donations, ensured safety wiring, and performed minor repairs.	
TRAINING AND EDUCATION	

OSHA 10 General Industry Certification, 360 Training, Phoenix, AZ

High School Diploma, Henderson High School, Henderson, IN

Creating Bullet Points

Bullet points are the format used in most resumes to describe what you have done for an organization or company.

When creating bullet points, keep the following tips in mind:

- Use strong Action Verbs
- Keep bullet points descriptive and concise.
- Utilize past tense, unless you are currently working somewhere.
- Do not repeat bullet points in multiple jobs

Read over the following examples of how to create strong bullet points:

I. What did you do at your Retail Job? Folded, cleaned and checked customer out.

Begin each bullet point with an action verb:

- Folded
- Cleaned
- Checked out customers

Clarify how much responsibility you had: How frequently? To what degree? How many?

- Folded clothes at the beginning and end of each shift
- Cleaned floors, dressing rooms, and restrooms
- Checked out Scanned 30-40 customer orders per shift including merchandise returns.

II. What did you do for your Fast Food Job? Made food, cleaned, and took money

Begin each bullet point with an action verb:

- Made food
- Cleaned
- Took money

Clarify how much responsibility you had: How frequently? To what degree? How many?

- Made food-Used commercial griddle and fryer to prepare burgers, fries, and chicken nuggets
- Cleaned and sanitized kitchen equipment according to food safety practices
- Took money Received payment by cash, credit, debit, and gift cards and made appropriate change

III. What did you do at your Construction Job? Framed, tiled, and hung drywall

Begin each bullet point with an action verb:

- Framed
- Tiled
- Hung drywall

Clarify how much responsibility you had: How frequently? To what degree? How many?

- Framed residential homes and condominiums in accordance with blue prints
- Tiled and grouted bathrooms and kitchens ranging from 50-500 square feet.
- Hung and mudded drywall including taping and texturing

Make sure to consider what other responsibilities you had:

- Did you balance a cash drawer?
- Did you do inventory?
- Did you train new employees?
- Did you ensure food was maintained at appropriate temperatures?

IMPORTANT! Make sure you don't repeat the same bullet points. Even if you worked at 2 fast food restaurants, make sure to mix it up!

Customer Service Representative, Burger King, Lafayette, CO

- Used commercial griddle and fryer to prepare burgers, fries, and chicken nuggets
- Counted cash in drawer at the beginning of shift and reconciled the amount at shift end
- Verified supply delivery three times per week

Sandwich Artist, Subway, Boulder, CO

- Cleaned and sanitized kitchen equipment according to food safety practices
- Received payment by cash, credit, debit, and gift cards and made appropriate change
- Prepared orders according to customer directions and answered questions regarding ingredients

Check out the typical pitfall in some positions:

Bullet points for a Tech Job:

- Developed numerous RPG IV & RPG FREE applications for CWIC/WES (warehouse) System.
- Developed numerous SQLRPGLE Programs for CWIC/WES (warehouse) System.
- Developed numerous ILE Procedures for CWIC/WES (warehouse) System.
- Developed numerous CL Programs for CWIC/WES (warehouse) System.
- Maintained programs (RPG III, IV, and FREE) in CWIC/WES (warehouse) System.

Make sure you use a variety of action verbs and vary your bullet point structure. Adults get bored easily with repetition.

- Developed numerous RPG IV & RPG FREE applications for CWIC/WES (warehouse) System.
- Built and CL and SQLRPGLE Programs to increase storage efficiency by 15%
- Utilized ILE Procedures to minimize redundancy and build consistent programs.
- Provided all onsite maintenance for a variety of site specific software programs.

May – Sept 2018

Sept 2018 – Present

ACTION VERBS

ADMINISTRATIVE SKILLS

Administered Coordinated Dealt Designed Enlisted Established Evaluated Intercepted Interviewed Managed Mediated Negotiated Ordered Organized Participated Prepared Planned Provided Reviewed Selected Supervised Updated

COUNSELING SKILLS

Assessed Clarified Coached Counseled Demonstrated Diagnosed Educated Encouraged Expedited Facilitated Familiarized Guided Interpreted Motivated Observed Referred Rehabilitated Represented Stimulated

CLERICAL SKILLS

Approved Arranged Catalogued Classified Collected Compiled Dispatched Executed Filed Generated Implemented Inspected Monitored Operated Prepared Processed Purchased Recorded Retrieved Screened Specified Systematized Tabulated Typed Validated

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Addressed Arranged Authored Contracted Consulted Corresponded Created Developed Directed Drafted Edited Enlisted Formulated Handled Helped Influenced Interpreted Interviewed Led Lectured Manipulated Mediated Merged Motivated

Negotiated Obtained Persuaded Reasoned Reconciled Recruited Sold Spoke Wrote Read

CREATIVE SKILLS

Abstracted Acted Adapted Conceived Conceptualized Created Designed Developed Directed Established Expanded Fashioned Founded Generated Illustrated Imagined Implemented Initiated Innovated Instituted Integrated Introduced

Invented Launched Opened Originated Painted Perceived Performed Planned Promoted Produced Revitalized Set Up Shaped Shared Synthesized Visualized Wrote

FINANCIAL SKILLS

Administered Allocated Analyzed Appraised Audited Budgeted Calculated Compared Computed Detailed Developed Estimated Forecasted Kept records Kept books Managed Planned Researched Recorded Reconciled Solved

ACTION VERBS (continued)

DETAIL SKILLS

Recorded

Responded

Researched

Retained

Retrieved

Structured

Tabulated

Validated

Systematized

Selected

Approved Arranged Classified Collated Compared Copied Collected Compiled Defined Dispatched Enforced Executed Facilitated Followed through Gathered Implemented Inspected Investigated Judged Managed time Met deadlines Operated Organized Pinpointed Processed Purchased

DEVELOPMENT SKILLS

Analyzed Applied Catalogued Compiled Conceived Coordinated Created Designed Developed Effected Engaged Established Formulated Founded Gathered Influenced Implemented Initiated Instituted Maintained Prepared Researched Selected Structured Supported Surveyed Updated

HELPING SKILLS

Adjusted Advised Assisted Attended Brought Cared for Carried out Consulted Directed Enlisted Guided Let Listened Monitored Notified Observed Performed Referred Related Rendered Serviced Spoke Supported Understood

MANAGEMENT SKILLS

Administered Analyzed Assigned Conducted Contracted Controlled Coordinated Demonstrated Delegated Developed Directed Effected Evaluated Executed Fired Guided Hired Instructed Led Managed

Monitored Ordered Organized Oversaw Participated Persuaded Planned Prioritized Produced Projected Promoted Proposed Provided Recommended Reviewed Scheduled Strategized Supervised Trained

MANUAL SKILLS

Assembled Shipped Bent Tended Bound Built Controlled Cut Drilled Drove Fed Ground Handled Inspected Lifted Maintained Moved Operated Prepared Pulled Punched Set-up

RESEARCH SKILLS

Clarified Collected Critiqued Decided Diagnosed Examined Extracted Extrapolated Evaluated Gathered Inspected Interpreted Interviewed Investigated Organized Perceived Reviewed Surveyed Synthesized Wrote

Work Experience List all organizations that you have volunteered with. Develop bullet points to explain what you did and the impact you had. Remember to use strong verbs.

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What's Next

- 1. Homework for Day 2: Begin Brainstorming and complete pages 15-16. Bring a digital copy of your resume or email it to yourself if you have a resume already.
- 2. Day 2 is a lab day where we will begin building your resume.
- 3. Determine which type of resume you will use. When in doubt go with a combination resume.
- 4. Begin with what you know:
 - a. Name, email, phone, location if you choose to include it
 - b. Add jobs and education next only go back 10-12 years in most cases.
- 5. Add bullet points:
 - a. Think about the "what you did" and "how you did it."
 - b. Begin each bullet point with a past tense action verb
 - c. Make sure to include results or scope how many, how frequently, how much. Include dollar amounts, numbers or percentages where possible.
- 6. Create a skills section this section may include skills you've not been paid for or that you did a long time ago.
- 7. Once you know which job you're interested in, print that job description and highlight everything you've ever done.
- 8. Tailor your resume to highlight the most relevant experience for the job description. For more help tailoring your resume attend ReZoom Your Resume.
- 9. Write an Objective Statement OR a Professional Profile that summarizes your ability to do the job.
- 10. Make sure that someone proofreads your resume:
 - a. Let a friend review it for basic typos!
 - b. Come to Walk-In Resume Critique see <u>www.wfbc.org</u> for the most up-todate schedule.
 - c. Email it to <u>CEinfo@bouldercounty.org</u> Please allow 2 business days for a response.
 - d. Ask someone in the industry for their opinion.