

Tips for writing a good creative CV

For creative professionals (and aspiring professionals), having an attractive, well-presented CV is crucial. A good eye for design should not blink, which means everything you create – for professional purposes – should be visually attractive, and sophisticated, in the sense that it will appeal to those who are educated and successful in your chosen field, just as it would appeal to anyone else.

Usually this means going for a minimal approach, which might initially seem to narrow down your options for creating a truly striking and original design. However, this need not be the case. Minimalism is all about stripping away the superfluous and the unnecessary, and in so doing, revealing the form. So, the details become very important. What font are you going to use? What colour for the text? What about the alignment and spacing? The size of the text..?

Just considering those very basic parameters, there are limitless possibilities for creativity. While it might sound dull to those who are used to creating videos, and billboards, and ad campaigns – using an enormous variety of techniques and media in the process – the notion of creating a beautiful composition on an A4 page using only text, which is also informative and easily assimilable, is in fact a challenge worthy of anyone with a design background.

So, what information should you include? Potential employers want to know about your relevant work history and qualifications. They also want to find out a bit about who you are, and where your interests, passions and motivations lie. Because brevity is important, it's good if you can write about experiences that demonstrate broad skillsets. For example, volunteering in a relevant area always looks great on a CV, because it shows that you are self-motivated and

naturally inquisitive, passionate about your subject area, ambitious, and not without the confidence to try new things.

Given the mind numbing volume of CVs that swirl about the virtual ether, you must work hard at making your CV stand out. Just think, one eye-catching piece of information here or there could spell the difference between landing – or not landing – your dream job!

I am in the process of fleshing out my CV, as I look to switch careers, and to write professionally, full-time. Contributing to this blog is part of that effort. I also have my own blog, where I write about matters that are important to me (and others). Those blog posts are now published on news websites, such as <https://www.the-newshub.com/>, where they have the potential to reach a large audience. The next step for me is to do my own first-hand reporting, and in so doing, to get rid of the glowing laptop screen that serves as an intermediary between my own eyes and the rest of the world, for far too much of the time!

Love what you do

These target-based activities should be enjoyable and compelling to you, because if they are not, you are unlikely to pursue them with the vigour and tenacity required to offer you a meaningful learning experience, and to make a positive impression on possible future employers. That drive to volunteer, or embark on a new project, must come from an inner wellspring of determination to achieve something, because without that, the fortitude to endure the many setbacks and derailments that are going to hit you along the way will be lacking.

Your CV is an advert posted on a crowded shop front of countless other hoardings, all vying for attention. It must look snappy enough to attract attention to begin with, and it must have the substance to keep that attention.

The more creative and original you are, and the less derivative, the more chances you will have to succeed.

These are the words that resonate with me, in my search for a new, creative, and fulfilling career:

Work hard at what you love doing.

Good luck.

My blog, Earthly Injustice, is available to view at: www.earthlyinjustice.com

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