

# Landing your first job in Tech: Checklist for Success



So you're in looking for your first IT job, what do you need to know? With help from the team at Wolf we've combined the best tips for success in the IT job market. Kick-start your preparation process by using our five steps to success:



Nautilus House  
Redburn Court  
North Shields  
NE29 6AR

Phone: +44 (0) 191 432 4123  
[www.wolfgroup.co.uk](http://www.wolfgroup.co.uk)  
E mail: [info@wolf-consultancy.co.uk](mailto:info@wolf-consultancy.co.uk)

## 1 Do your Research



Prior to the interview familiarise yourself with the business. Identify the company size, location, industry sectors even the competition and potential challenges. All this information could come in use in an interview, if only to impress with your extensive knowledge! Have they recently featured in the press? Research companies on LinkedIn and find out who their employees are, you may even have connections at the organisation.

## 2 Work Experience and Internships

Again, as with most industry sectors, gaining real-life working experience is one of the most important things you can do as student or when looking for your first step on the IT career ladder. Even a couple of days a week for a few months in a working IT environment will demonstrate to employers that you have sorted out work experience and have an insight into what working in an IT firm or department is really like.

## 3 Prepare for technical Interviews

During the interview process it's not uncommon for you to be faced with a technical task. This might be after an initial interview or even upon first meeting with the employer. Your first or even second time performing a technical task under the pressure of interview conditions may not go perfectly. Don't beat yourself up. The important thing to do is learn from it and look to improve for similar future scenarios.

## 4 Show what you can do

Interviewing for your first job as a developer? Bring an example application if you have any, even if it isn't relevant to the specific job you're applying for. This type of example demonstrates your passion for developing, shows you have the right frame of mind for programming and suggests to employers that you're willing to extend your knowledge on your own.

## 5 Finally... Hone your 'soft' skills

Soft skills are the non-technical, interpersonal skills, like effective communication, strong teamwork, leadership, problem solving and negotiation skills that you're likely to require almost every day of your working life. Identify certain skillsets you lack or could work on and look to spend time improving them, perhaps through networking and/or taking as many interview opportunities as you can.