

# The traditional resume is dead. Time to create a 21st-century resume

The person screening the resume knows within a minute whether it will go in the reject pile or the accept pile. It really *is* that fast!

While many organizations look at formatting or grammar errors as the reasons why they reject those resumes, the problem is definitely much deeper. Many resumes we receive are of the 19th-century format - very generic with no proof of work whatsoever!

Our previous generation wrote such a resume, without giving details of their work, because it was comparatively harder to show proof of their work. With the internet, showing passion for the work you are doing is possible.

Great resumes tell a story. They pique the curiosity of the interviewer. So much, that the interviewer's first instinct is to schedule an interview fast.

## **So, how should the 21st-century resume for a software development fresher look like?**

People relate to stories. Can you show us your journey as a software engineer through your resume? It's not hard.

### **For Technical Skills**

1. Don't just tell us that you know X, Y Z language. Show us your coding skills through your contributions in your GitHub profile
2. If you are an expert in computer science basics, mention your marks in those subjects and redirect us to the programs you have written
3. If you have done a project or research, put a link of your paper or project for us to review

### **For Communication Skills**

Remote working will be a new reality soon. Most of us are great at communication but we are unable to project it on the resume. There are ways for it too.

1. You can demonstrate your communication skills through your Quora or StackOverflow answers. It gives recruiters a way to see how you answer a question that an anonymous person has asked.
2. If you write blogs, even if they are not related to computer science, it's a good idea to link them

## For Behavioral Skills

Organizations look for soft skills such as how you communicate, how you resolve conflict, how you lead etc.

1. If you have started a club in your college, led a business plan competition, managed a team, mention them. These imply that you are a self-initiator
2. If you have a hobby that you pursue diligently, have taken online courses, mention them. These show that you enjoy learning and are interesting
3. If 1 and 2 are not your cup of tea, provide a recommendation from someone who is your senior, your peer, and your junior. These can give recruiters more idea about you and make your story stronger

Now, we are aware that not all of you have enough experience to add so many details in your resume. Providing proof can be challenging. Our school and college education often don't provide us with an ambient environment to solve problems that are required in the industry.

At ColoredCow, we think talent is overrated. We think with proper exposure and guidance, anyone can flourish. And, we have a ton of examples to prove that.

So if you don't have the necessary technical skills, we have especially curated a [preparatory exercise for you](#). Try and solve it. Once done, add it to your GitHub. We are sure that it will add value to your resume. And, if you find it difficult or get stuck, let us know. We will be happy to assist!

Your story will be different from someone else's story. But if you are applying to a particular organization, you must be resonating with that organization on some level. Maybe you like the work they are doing, maybe the job description was calling out your name to apply, maybe you got the sense that you can grow in that organization. So why not put a little extra effort to tailor that generic resume to the job description and the organization you are applying to?

**Happy learning!**