

Getting a job with no experience is a problem we all face at one point in our lives.

We've all been there. So, how do you bag that first job?

You are going to need a CV

Yes, there's still no real way to get a job without a CV. However, these days there are always loads of hacks to make things easier. So for your CV, we have a few hacks to get you going. At Get Licensed, we have our very own [CV builder](#). And it's free!

All you need to do is click the link, pick your preferred CV template design, then answer the questions, and your CV is ready to download.

If you are struggling to know what a CV for a security professional even looks like, here's hack no 2. Log on to [dayjob.com](#). And yes, that's free too. There you can look at other examples of security professional's CVs. Knowing what your CV ought to look like will help you answer the questions in our CV builder to write your CV well.

Don't forget to use a spellchecker. The best online software for this is [Grammarly](#). That's free too. So with all these three hacks, you are sure to be able to write a great CV!

Talk about your transferable skills

When you are new to an industry, you need to be talking about transferable skills. These are skills that are used across the board. So, for example, if you've been working in retail or hospitality, you'll have developed excellent customer service skills. These skills are essential in the security industry as well, so they are very relevant.

There are many transferable skills, including communication skills, teamwork, observational skills, first aid, decision making, and problem-solving. If you have developed these in any industry, whether manufacturing or construction, it doesn't matter, that's why they are called transferable. Make sure you talk about these skills on your CV and at interviews.

Apply for all the suitable jobs available and in good time

You may as well set yourself a regular time each day if possible to log onto job sites and check for new vacancies. Good job sites to look for vacancies include [jobsite.co.uk](#), [reed.co.uk](#), [indeed.com](#), and [find a job at gov.uk](#).

[Jobsite](#)

It's important to apply for as many jobs as possible, and if you are one of the first few to apply, you have a much greater chance of being asked for an interview and eventually hired. If you wait to apply for a vacancy after it's already been advertised for a week, you will be joining a very long queue. The employer will likely stop looking at CVs after 10 or 20 applicants tops.

Try the old school way

If you have some free time on your hands because you are not working yet, why not put it to good use. Have your CV printed out and head on out to local businesses that are potential employers. You never know when a company might suddenly need to take on a new security member, and you might walk through the door later that day.

Many clubs and bars have better things to do than get online and make sure they follow all the rules that apply to advertising jobs. Some much prefer to rely on CVs that have been handed in to them in person. Or they might have a great CV handed into them just as they are about to start logging on, which will save them a whole heap of hassle.

So head on out and get dropping off CVs. It will give you the chance to feel more proactive than applying online. And it can also allow you to touch up on your communication skills face-to-face.

A good question to ask when you are handing in CVs is, "Can I please speak to the manager about any possible vacancies over the next few months?".

If you straight out ask a bar person, "Are there any jobs?" you may miss out. They might give you the standard, "I don't know, but you can leave a CV with me." If you try the second way, you stand a good chance of having your CV tucked behind a till while a bored or busy staff member continues their work.

At least if you ask to speak to a manager, the bar person will probably check with the boss or manager, and you may, at the very least, get some valuable information. If there are vacancies or likely to be vacancies soon, there's an excellent chance the manager will come and speak to you.

When you are old schooling it, clean and fresh with smart casual clothing is the way.

Another good tip for handing out CVs is never to hit the place at their busiest time. If you head out to a place at a peak time, you can be assured that you will get the minimum attention. You will also look like you have no understanding of their business, as no one wants to be bothered with a job applicant when they are overrun with customers.

Be careful

One thing to remember is that not all companies are great employers. When you are desperate to bag your first job, you don't need to have the attitude that any job will do. Many employers are just unpleasant people; they expect too much for too little and are at best disrespectful. And the boss may fire you at the drop of a hat simply because they are a thoroughly unpleasant person.

It can be difficult to know if an employer is suspect, especially when you are not in the industry. But take a little time to ask a few people. Maybe the club or bar has a reputation in the area for being a bad employer. If you are aware that they are miserable employers, then taking the job that no one else wants will not get you far.

It might be that they'll only give you a bad reference when you leave, so there's not much point in spending a few months of your life working for people that you'll hate. If a company has a bad rep, then avoid them and wait for a first job that will allow you to learn the ropes in an understanding and pleasant environment.

It might be that you have to take a job in a slightly different environment such as retail if you would prefer working events and clubs. But this is far better than taking a job from a terrible employer.

Manage your expectations and be kind to yourself

It nearly always takes some time to get your first job unless you get super lucky. However, with the current demand for security personnel following lockdown restrictions easing, you might get snapped up very quickly.

Keep up with your daily applications and if you don't get a job following an interview, keep in mind that only one person did! It often takes several stabs at interviews to improve your confidence and better answer the questions they have. Learn from the interviews you have attended and pat yourself on the back for your efforts. You will get there, so keep on going.

In the meantime, why not check out the vlogs we have on the [Get Licensed YouTube Channel?](#) See what you can learn about working in the security industry from people that have been where you are and are now happily working. Best of luck!