

Mistakes New Grads Make When Job Hunting

+ HOW YOU CAN AVOID THEM!

Mistake 1 | Waiting Too Long to Start

Many new grads think they need to “take a break” after graduation, but waiting too long can cause you to miss early opportunities. **Jobs get filled fast!**

HOW TO AVOID IT |

START APPLYING EVEN BEFORE YOU WALK THE GRADUATION STAGE. TREAT JOB HUNTING LIKE A PART-TIME JOB: SET DAILY GOALS (EX: APPLY TO 3/JOBS/DAY).

Mistake 2 | Using the Same Resume for Every Job

Sending the same generic resume to every employer looks lazy + hurts your chances. Employers want to feel like **you really want that specific job.**

HOW TO AVOID IT |

- TAILOR YOUR RESUME TO MATCH THE KEYWORDS IN EACH JOB DESCRIPTION.
- HIGHLIGHT DIFFERENT SKILLS DEPENDING ON THE JOB

(EX: TEAMWORK FOR RETAIL, ORGANIZATION FOR OFFICE JOBS.)

Mistake 3 | Only Applying Online

Only applying through job boards means you're just one resume in a giant pile. You need **real human connections** to stand out!

HOW TO AVOID IT |

- NETWORK!
- CONNECT WITH FRIENDS, FAMILY, TEACHERS, PAST EMPLOYERS, + EVEN LINKEDIN CONTACTS.

Mistake 4 | Not Following Up

Many grads apply once + **wait...** + wait... + wait...
Meanwhile, employers hire people who **show initiative**.

HOW TO AVOID IT |

- AFTER 5-7 DAYS OF APPLYING, SEND A SHORT, POLITE FOLLOW-UP EMAIL.
- CALL OR GO IN FOR A VISIT!

Mistake 5 | Getting Discouraged Too Fast

You might not get hired after your first 5 or even 10 applications, + that's **normal**. The job market is competitive, but you have skills to offer!

HOW TO AVOID IT |

- TRACK YOUR APPLICATIONS SO YOU STAY ORGANIZED.
- STAY POSITIVE, ADJUST YOUR APPROACH IF NEEDED, + KEEP APPLYING.
- EVERY “NO” BRINGS YOU CLOSER TO THE RIGHT “YES”.



GRAD GOALS ADVENTURE 2025

**Only 10 seats
available!
Register today!**

**Helping new grads build a confident,
action-based plan for their next chapter.**

riverandcompass.com/gradgoals
