

Create Your Own Luck v(1)

Practical Ways to Increase Opportunity in Your Job Search

Finding a job is not only about skills and qualifications. Timing, visibility, persistence, and preparation all play a role.

Some people call this **luck**.

The good news is that there are many things you can do to **increase the chances that good luck finds you**.

1. Increase the Number of Opportunities - Luck improves when you **increase the number of doors you knock on**.

Ways to do this:

- Apply to jobs **within 24–36 hours** of posting.
- Set up **job alerts** on multiple job boards.
- Check company websites, not just job boards.
- Apply even if you meet **most (not all)** qualifications.
- Look for **temporary, seasonal, or contract jobs** that could lead to permanent work.
- Search for **similar job titles** that use different wording.
- Ask employers if they expect to hire **in the future**, even if no job is posted.
- Revisit job postings that appear **more than once**.

More applications + more conversations = more chances for good luck.

2. Be Visible When Opportunity Appears - Many job opportunities happen because **someone remembered you**.

Ways to increase visibility:

- Tell friends, family, and neighbours you are job searching.
- Let former teachers, supervisors, or coworkers know you are available.
- Introduce yourself politely to managers when visiting businesses.
- Attend job fairs, community events, and networking opportunities.
- Volunteer or take short-term work where employers can see your work ethic.
- Join community groups or local organizations.
- Engage with businesses online or follow companies you admire.

Sometimes the opportunity begins with someone thinking: "I know someone who might be good for that job."

3. Be Ready When Luck Shows Up - Opportunities sometimes appear suddenly. Preparation helps you take advantage of them.

Ways to be ready:

- Keep your **resume updated**.
- Prepare a **short introduction** about yourself.
- Practice answering common interview questions.
- Keep a list of **references ready**.
- Have proper clothing ready for interviews.
- Be prepared to **start work quickly** if needed.

Often the lucky moment goes to the person who can say: “Yes, I’m ready.”

4. Follow Up (Where Many People Lose Their Luck) - Following up can turn **neutral luck into good luck**.

Helpful strategies:

- Send a short **thank-you message after interviews**.
- Follow up **5–7 days after applying**.
- Call politely to check on application status.
- Reapply later if a job posting appears again.
- Let employers know you are still interested in future opportunities.

Many employers appreciate people who show **genuine interest and persistence**.

5. Use Small Moments to Create Opportunity - Luck often happens through **small everyday interactions**.

Examples:

- Be friendly and professional with everyone you meet.
- Ask people what they do for work and show curiosity.
- Mention your job search in natural conversations.
- Offer help when possible — people remember kindness.
- Leave a positive impression wherever you go.

You never know who might say: “You should talk to my manager.”

6. Turn Bad Luck into Future Luck - Rejection happens to everyone during a job search. The key is **learning from each experience**.

Ways to turn bad luck into opportunity:

- Ask for feedback when possible.
- Reflect on what went well and what could improve.
- Keep connections with employers who did not hire you.
- Ask if they know **other employers who might be hiring**.
- Improve one small thing before your next application.

Sometimes the job you don't get **leads to the job you do get**.

7. Stay Organized and Track Your Efforts - Luck improves when you **stay organized and consistent**.

Helpful habits:

- Track jobs you apply to.
- Write down follow-up dates.
- Keep copies of resumes and cover letters.
- Record employers you spoke with.
- Set small daily or weekly job search goals.

This helps turn job searching from **guesswork into a strategy**.

8. Stay Positive (Even When It's Hard) - Job searching can be emotionally difficult, especially for people who have faced barriers or rejection.

It is normal to feel discouraged sometimes.

Helpful ways to stay positive:

- Focus on **effort, not just outcomes**.
- Set small goals you can accomplish each week.
- Celebrate progress (applications sent, interviews gained, contacts made).
- Talk with supportive friends, family, or mentors.
- Take breaks and care for your mental health.
- Remember that **many hiring decisions come down to timing**, not personal failure.

A helpful reminder: "Not getting a job does not mean you were not good enough. It may simply mean the timing or fit was different."

Staying positive helps you **stay in the game long enough for good luck to happen**.

A Simple Truth About Luck

Luck often follows people who:

- keep trying

- keep learning
- keep meeting people
- stay prepared

You cannot control every outcome.

But you **can control how many chances you give luck to find you**