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**I'VE LANDED MY  
DREAM JOB**

*Now What???*



**SCOT HERRICK**  
FOREWORD BY JASON ALBA

Happy About



# I've Landed My Dream Job—Now What???

How to Achieve Success in the First  
30 Days in a New Job

**Book Excerpt**  
**By Scot Herrick**

Foreword by Jason Alba



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## Foreword by Jason Alba

Congratulations—you get to move on from "job search mode" and start your new job—indeed, your dream job!

This book might be one of the most important things you read over the next few months as you settle into your new role. You were hired for a reason and you are there to succeed!

Fortunately, Scot is a student and master of career management for the working professional, and you now have access to his best advice, guidance and tips. From this book you should learn to never stop networking. This is a book about protocol, communication and relationships. It's a book to help you be effective and prove why you were the right person to hire. Take chances, of course, but Scot shows you how to do this with an understanding of the culture and environment, so that you make the very best of your new opportunity.

Get a red pen or highlighter and faithfully read this book daily—it is more than a guide—it is a handbook full of actionable ideas that will contribute to your success for many years to come.

If you find something you disagree with, that is okay! Make a note of it, send an email to Scot, or leave a comment on his website ([www.DreamJobNowWhat.com](http://www.DreamJobNowWhat.com)). Your circumstances, and the culture of your company, might require a different course of action from what

Scot recommends. The important thing is that you critically think about the issues and opportunities to intentionally set your career in the right direction.

I know Scot says this is a book for your first four weeks at your dream job but I hope you keep visiting it as a reference at different stages of your employment. When you have digested it all, pass it on as a gift to someone else who has just landed their dream job.

Good luck!

Jason Alba  
CEO, JibberJobber.com  
Author, 'I'm on LinkedIn—Now What???' (Second Edition)  
<http://imonlinkedinnowwhat.com/>

# 1

## Now Is Not the Time to Relax

Congratulations on landing your dream job!

After the hard work of researching the job, navigating the interview gauntlet, and negotiating your offer, success arrives in the form of an accepted offer. You get to start your dream job! Finally, you can relax.

Not so much.

The next phase is just as tough as getting the dream job in the first place: you need to show that you can succeed in the job and work with your manager, team, and coworkers. Without initial success—hitting the ground running—all your hard work securing your dream job will come to naught.

The pressure to perform is high. Companies have ravaged their workforces to align their revenues and expenses; they cannot afford to carry someone new in the face of this unrelenting pressure. Every employee needs to perform and, if not, will be let go in favor of many others waiting in the wings to get the job. With the high levels of downsizing in this Great Recession, a new hire focuses a big spotlight on the person—*you!*—hired for the job.

Even worse, the pressure for success doesn't give employers time to wait while you learn the job. Employers won't train you on new job skills; you need to have the right skills when you walk in the door. Nor is there great concern for your career, only on what you can produce to help the company meet its goals while the management teams focus on surviving.

In short, whatever you need to do, you need to do it yourself.

It is at this point that most people fail. Why? Because they passively wait until their manager volunteers information critical to doing the job well. They wait and watch their team instead of actively learning what needs doing. They infer what customers need from the work they perform. They assume that work gets done at this company in just the same way as it did at their previous employer. By the time they figure out that what happens here is different than at the last position, it is too late. They have become branded as a slow learner in the job or, worse, not doing the job right. Unfortunately, that initial assessment requires significant work to overcome, if it is overcome at all. Getting a poor initial assessment often dooms the person in the position and the company where the eventual choice is to simply start over.

The other side of the coin is that you've committed your skills and work to a company, for better or for worse. No matter how hard you research the company, manager, team, and job, the truth of the matter is that until you actually start the work and deal with all the new interactions on the job, you won't know whether the company, job, or manager is the right fit for you. Unless you are actively discovering what the new job is about and the culture that encompasses the work, you extend the time it takes you to decide if the position is right for you.

If it takes you six months to discover your job isn't right for you, it takes that much longer to find a different position that *is* right for you. Plus, while you are working in a job that isn't right for you, your risk of producing poor work is very high. Poor work output in a competitive employment environment is hugely detrimental to finding another job that does fit your skills.

Now that you have your dream job, you have critical decisions to make that have nothing to do with the tasks your manager gives you or the job skills you have. Critical decisions need making on how your

manager goes about managing people, so you can fit into that management style. Decisions need making about your coworkers and their levels of competence and skills. Other decisions about the customers of your work need making to ensure that the people most affected by your work are more than satisfied. A clear, relatively unbiased view of your new position needs making to ensure you will succeed in the job and the job gives you what you need to get better at what you do.

Most people don't know how to go about gathering the information they need to integrate themselves into the new culture or, once they have the information, what to do with it. They know they should learn this stuff, but don't know how to go about it.

*I've landed my dream job—now what???*

That's what this book is all about: showing success in the first 30 days after you start a new job, whether at a new company or at a different position in the same company you work at right now.

This book charts out your first four weeks at a new job and tasks you with learning about all the other success characteristics you need besides completing your work assigned by your manager. It asks you to go above and beyond your work output to proactively learn about your company, manager, coworkers, and customers in a way that integrates you into the culture—or decide that the job isn't right for you. Doing these additional tasks helps you learn faster, team quicker, and succeed sooner.



## About the Author



In our shifting economy, landing a job—any job—is a big deal. So if you land your *dream job*, you may find yourself so pleased and satisfied with your achievement that you think you're done. But, as *Scot Herrick* points out in '*I've Landed a Dream Job—Now What???*' today—more than ever before—you need to hit the ground running on day one of your new job.

Given current economics, having a new employee get productive super fast is a huge advantage not only for the employee's manager but for the employee too. This can make the first 30 days at a new job intense and filled with anxiety because virtually everything is new—corporate culture, team dynamics, management styles, and more. It is difficult for you, as a new hire, to nail down what you know, who to ask, and which of your skills are most valued by your new organization.

Scot Herrick's purpose in writing this book is to help people like you, who have just landed a job at a large or small corporation, to get started on the right foot. Beginning with the often-overlooked basics, Scot shows you how to manage the transition from your old job, to evaluate the fit between your new workplace and yourself, to identify the real decision makers, to integrate into your new team's culture and, most important, to determine which aspects of your new role are most meaningful to your manager, and therefore most closely linked to your job security and paycheck.

*'I've Landed a Dream Job—Now What???' is designed to be your constant companion during the first thirty days at your new job. It will help you think through what you're going to accomplish and how to measure your accomplishments, right from day 1 all the way to day 30. Weekly tasks and action items make sure you are on track and end-of-week reviews help you assess how closely you are meeting your goals. With Scot Herrick's book at your side, you can be sure to survive and thrive in your new cubicle.*

**Getting “I’ve Landed My Dream Job—Now What???”**

**(<http://happyabout.com/mydreamjob.php>)**

“I’ve Landed My Dream Job—Now What???” can be purchased as an eBook for \$14.95 or tradebook for \$19.95 at <http://happyabout.com/mydreamjob.php> or at other online and physical book stores.

Please contact us for quantity discounts [sales@happyabout.info](mailto:sales@happyabout.info) or to be informed about upcoming titles [bookupdate@happyabout.info](mailto:bookupdate@happyabout.info) or phone (408-257-3000).