

What to expect in having a job

While you may think that 'being paid' will automatically change your habits it doesn't. Just a couple slip-ups in the work place and buh-bye you're off to job #2. Can you get a second one? Sure, but the more they pile up in your 'employment history' the less likely the next job will be to hire you. After all, why hire someone whose only going to last a month?

What you need to do:

1. Clean up your language. Just because your boss wasn't fired on the spot for dropping the f-bomb doesn't mean you won't be.
2. Arrive on-time and every time.
3. Put away the cell phone and i-pod. No work – no pay and if you're on you're cell, it sure ain't work.
4. Work right up to the end. Sure in school you start packing up 5-7 minutes before the bell so you can bolt. That doesn't fly in the workplace.
5. Ask questions. Don't sit and wait for someone to notice you need help. L-a-z-y!
6. Take the initiative. That trash isn't going to empty itself. If you're not sure that it should be done or you should be doing it then ask first. But employers love employees who don't need a lot of babysitting to get the work done.
7. Being an expert at Guitar Hero doesn't make you an expert at selling video games in the mall. You co-workers have been there longer than you so keep the ego in check and you might earn their respect.
8. Take a shower and keep your reputation clean. Nobody wants to be the stinky person at work.
9. If it's personal, keep it personal.
10. Protect yourself and read your employee handbook. Know your employment rights both in the company and the law. Before you start blasting your boss for mishaps, calmly discuss it with him. If you still feel there is an issue, contact your HR rep at corporate.