

Here are my top 6 tips for finding a job:

1. Access the hidden job market: 80% of jobs never reach the public market. Your access lies in consistency and networking. Be patient when you meet people. Don't ask for a job, just ask for their story. Learn how you can help them. Stay in touch. As they learn who you are they may recognize your perfect fit and pass you on to the right people. If you feel like you have a good connection with them, ask what steps would be necessary to become part of their organization.
2. Networking is rather simple: Start with people you know, tell them what you need and with whom you would like to talk. Discuss what you want to learn about companies or roles that interest you. Ask how you can help them too. Networking is relationship building. Relationships are *give* and take.
3. Focus on what the employer, recruiter or your future manager are looking for. Once you know that (and that might be some work, but valuable time invested) then you can tweak your stories and experiences in that direction on your CV and cover letters. This will reduce the risk in hiring you as you reflect what they need.
4. Look for job offers, not a job. This will lead you to ask questions about the company and the people working there. Be someone people like. Give of yourself and be open with who you are as a co-worker and human.
5. It's a numbers game: The more connections, the more opportunities. Be smart about it. Don't copy/paste your questions. Be personal. Be *you*.
6. There is no perfect job. There are jobs in organizations with colleagues. How good any aspect of that becomes will be for you to judge. Take a job for its potential and then turn it into your dream job or environment. There will be perfect moments if you have the right attitude.