30 Ways to Shine as a New Employee

Pre-Employment Workshop Guide

Denise Bissonnette

© Milt Wright & Associates
www.miltwright.com

For more information on Denise’s seminars and writings, please visit:
www.diversityworld.com
30 Ways to Shine as a New Employee:  
Pre-Employment Workshop Outline

Estimated timeframes are calculated for a pre-employment workshop group of 8 to 15 participants. Please accommodate for more or less time depending on the number of participants in your group.

All thirty skills presented in 30 Ways to Shine as a New Employee are vital, and if time allows, cover them all! Unfortunately, most programs experience time constraints of various types. In order to help you in your planning, I have assigned a priority rating on a three-point scale: Essential, Important or Helpful. If you have time restrictions, I suggest you focus on those rated as “Essential”, following with those rated as “Important.” If you have time for the skills rated “Helpful”, that would be great too!

I have written suggestions for making the 30 skills relevant to participant’s current lives before employment. I am assuming, however, that upon completion of each skill you will reinforce the importance and relevance of each skill once they are working, as this is intended as a job retention program!

INTRODUCTION

Priority Rating: Essential

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Present the Eight Core Beliefs and facilitate a discussion around the question: “What are some of the major differences between how going to work is usually viewed and the way that the author presents employment?”

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A
(Skills 1-5) New Beginnings

1  CALMING NEW EMPLOYEE JITTERS
    Think Progress, Not Perfection

Priority Rating: Essential

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Present the Six Things to Remember to Deal with New Employee Jitters and then have each participant identify examples of "little bits of progress" in the job they will be entering. If the kind of position they are going into is unknown, assign participants a hypothetical position.

If participants are involved in work experience or mentorship, have them ask someone at the work site what progress looks like for a new employee in the first week and have them report their findings to the whole group at the next meeting.

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: 10 minutes
Follow-up time in class: 30 minutes

2  DEALING WITH CHANGE
    Prepare for the Winding Road of Transition

Priority Rating: Essential

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Introduce the subject of transition using ideas from the text on page 13. Ask each participant to identify transitions they are experiencing at this time in their life. Present the Map of Transition to a New Job on pages 14 and 15. Ask participants if these stages look familiar to them given past work experiences. Go over the Seven Tips on pages 16 and 17. Ask participants to consider which of the seven tips would be most helpful to keep in mind with regard to other transitions they are going through right now.

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A
3  UNDERSTANDING WORKPLACE CULTURE
   When in Rome, Do as the Romans Do - Part I

   Priority Rating: Essential

   Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

   Introduce the subject of workplace culture using ideas from the text on page 19. Go over the Categories of Workplace Culture on pages 20 through 24, citing examples from your own work experiences and eliciting other examples from the group.

   If participants are involved in work experience or mentorship, have them interview someone at the work site about the culture of the company using pages 20-24 as a springboard for questions. Have them report their findings to the whole group at the next meeting.

   Alternately, invite employers to the class and use the assessment to interview them about their workplace cultures.

   Have the group identify questions from the assessment that they would like to include in informational interviews.

   Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
   Outside of class: 30 minutes
   Follow-up time in class: 30-60 minutes

4  MEETING NEW PEOPLE
   Take Advantage of a Clean Slate

   Priority Rating: Important

   Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

   Take the group through page 25 following the directions in the text. Depending on the comfort level of the group, have them also share the three words they would have their co-workers use to describe them.
Following the directions on page 26, have the group go through the Fourteen Tips. Invite the group to share which suggestions they plan to put into practice in the workplace.

Have them experiment with items 1-3 in the Challenge of the Day and have them report on their experience at a future meeting.

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: 15-20 minutes

5 Satisfying Employer Expectations
Fifteen Key Behaviors

Priority Rating: Important

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Take participants through the activity, following the directions on page 30. In order to reinforce the importance of all 15 items, go through the list asking the group to identify those items that they would expect if they were employers.

Have participants identify the behaviors they need to improve upon before going into the workplace.

Estimated timeframe in class: 20 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A
(Skills 6-10) Stepping Out

6 LEARNING TO RELATE IN THE COMPANY STYLE:
   Dance with Wolves

   Priority Rating: Helpful

   Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

   Introduce the subject of "company style", using the ideas in the text
   on page 32. If participants are involved in work experience or
   mentorship, have them interview someone at the work site about the
   "company style of relating", using the questions on page 33. Have
   them report their findings to the whole group at the next meeting.

   Estimated timeframe in class: 15 minutes
   Outside of class: 30 minutes
   Follow-up time in class: 1 or 2 hours

7 CLARIFYING PERFORMANCE GOALS:
   Target Your Goals and Make Them SMART

   Priority Rating: Essential

   Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

   Present the Smart Model of work goals on page 34. Reinforce the
   importance of being able to answer these questions in relation to any
   job they are in.

   Estimated timeframe in class: 15 minutes
   Outside of class: N/A
   Follow-up time in class: N/A
Paying Attention to Your Surroundings:
Your Workplace as a Learning Place

Priority Rating: Important

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Take participants through the list on page 36, following the directions. Ask them to identify 2 or 3 things they have learned by being in the program which they had not expected to learn and have them share their responses with the whole group. Also have them identify at least one thing they are most looking forward to learning in the new job.

Estimated timeframe in class: 20-30 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

Learning From Mistakes
Make Fresh Ones, Not the Same Ones

Priority Rating: Important

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Go through the Six Hot Tips for Making Fresh Mistakes on pages 38 and 39. Give them an example of three parts of an apology from #2. Have participants practice making apologies in dyads.

Have participants share their responses to items 1 and 2 in the Challenge of the Day on page 40.

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A
NOT LETTING WORRY CRAMP YOUR STYLE
Adopt The Gretzky Approach to Making "Goals"

Priority Rating: Important

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

With their books closed, take the group through the true-false questions on page 41.

Following the directions provided, have them respond to the questions under item 1 in the Challenge of the Day on page 42. Adapt item 2 by asking participants to take one small risk in one area of their life within a specified time frame and report on their experience at a future meeting.

Estimated timeframe in class: 30 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: 30 minutes

(Skills 11-15) Developing Habits for Success

REFLECTING THE COMPANY IMAGE
Play to Your Audience

Priority Rating: Helpful

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Introduce the topic of reflecting the company image, using the ideas in the text on page 44.

If participants are involved in work experience or mentorship, have them interview someone at the work site about "reflecting the company image," using the questions on page 45. Have them report their findings to the whole group at the next meeting.

Alternately, invite employers to the class and use the questions on page 45 to interview them about their workplace cultures.
Have the group identify questions from page 45 that they would like to include in informational interviews.

Estimated timeframe in class: 20 minutes  
Outside of class: 15 minutes  
Follow-up time in class: 1 hour

12  
EXCEEDING EMPLOYER EXPECTATIONS  
Going the Extra Mile

Priority Rating: Essential

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Take the group through the Ten Suggestions for Going the Extra Mile on pages 46-48, adding examples from your own work experience for each of the ten suggestions.

Have participants brainstorm three ways that they can go the extra mile in the kind of job they are going to enter. If the kind of position they are going into is unknown, assign participants a hypothetical position.

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes  
Outside of class: N/A  
Follow-up time in class: N/A

13  
SHINING IN THE EYES OF THE CUSTOMER  
Roll Out the Carpet in Service

Priority Rating: Essential

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Introduce the topic of customer service by asking the group to share examples of excellent customer service and horrible customer service. Ask the group to identify what their examples have in common.
Take the group through the exercise of identifying customer needs, following the directions on page 50 and 51.

Ask for two volunteers to roleplay the scripts on page 52, responding to your requests as a customer. This will further reinforce the differences beyond reading them.

Have the group respond to the first two items in the Challenge of the Day and share their responses with one another.

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

14 BEING A TEAM PLAYER
Develop Your Human Relations Skills

Priority Rating: Essential

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Following the directions on page 55, take the group through the 17 suggestions and have them share the tips they like the most and plan to put into practice when they go to work. (Don’t forget to have them spot the lemons!)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

15 SURVIVING OFFICE POLITICS
Develop Workplace Savvy

Priority Rating: Important

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Following the directions on page 59, take the group through the 21 Tips for Surviving Workplace Savvy and have them identify the ones
they like the most and plan to put into practice when they go to work. (Once again, don’t forget to have them spot the lemons!)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

(Skills 16-20) Gifts of Perspective and Choice

16 CHOOSING TO THINK POSITIVE
   Overlook the Mud and See the Stars

Priority Rating: Important

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Ask for two volunteers to read the scripts on page 63, reflecting the differences in positive and negative thinking. Have everyone else keep their books closed during the roleplay. Facilitate a discussion of the differences between the two kinds of statements, using the ideas in the text on page 64.

Have participants respond to the first two items in the Challenge of the Day in relation to their lives outside the classroom or the workplace.

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

17 FACING YOUR FEAR AND FINDING COURAGE
   Looking the World Straight in the Eye

Priority Rating: Important

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Go through the Nine Tips for Facing Your Fears on pages 66-68. (Consider assigning specific tips to particular individuals who will then present them to the rest of the group.) Elicit a discussion among participants about the tip that they think is the most important.
Have participants respond to item #1 in the Challenge of the Day, adapting it to their “future work situation” rather than their “present” one.

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

18  BREAK BAD HABITS OF THE MIND
     An Experiment in Attitude

Priority Rating: Helpful

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Take participants through page 70 exactly as it is written and then have them try the Experiment in Attitude presented in the Challenge of the Day the following day (it has to begin first thing in the morning!)

Estimated timeframe in class: 15-20 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

19  COPING WITH EVERYDAY LIFE
     The Art of Flexibility

Priority Rating: Helpful

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Introduce the topic of “flexibility,” using the ideas laid out in the text on page 72, and then have participants respond to item #5 in the Challenge of the Day. Let participants discuss their responses and give each other advice on how they can better cope with everyday life situations.

Estimated timeframe in class: 20-30 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A
20  TAKING SMALL STEPS TO CHANGE
    Use Time Wisely

Priority Rating: Essential

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Introduce the topic of “time management” using the ideas presented on page 74. Have participants respond to the Life Style Changes section of the Challenge of the Day. Suggest that participants commit to practicing some of the ideas they write down and report to the group their experiences in a subsequent class.

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: Depends on the actions committed to
Follow-up time in class: 15 minutes

(Skills 21-25) Take the Bitter with the Sweet

21  CONTROLLING YOUR ANGER
    Keep Your Head So You Don’t Lose Your Job

Priority Rating: Essential

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Present the 5 Step Approach for Controlling Anger as it is presented on pages 76-78. Facilitate a discussion by having participants respond to each item in the Challenge of the Day, sharing their responses with the rest of the group.

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A
MAKING YOURSELF UNDERSTOOD
Choose the Right Words to Express Your Feelings

Priority Rating: Helpful

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Take the group through the activity on page 80 and have them “choose the right words” to describe how they felt in the following situations:

Three words to describe how they felt the first day in this program.
Three words to describe how they feel about going to work.

Estimated timeframe in class: 30 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

BENEFITING FROM PRAISE AND CRITICISM
Respond Well to Feedback

Priority Rating: Essential

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Present the Nine Tips for Responding to Feedback using the text on pages 82-84.

Have participants practice receiving positive feedback by asking them to divide into subgroups of four to six. Focusing on one person at a time, have every other person in the group give that person positive feedback.

Facilitate a discussion using the questions in item 2 of the Challenge of the Day.

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A
DEVELOPING THE ABILITY TO REALLY LISTEN
Be all Ears and Don’t Tune Out

Priority Rating: Essential

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Have participants close their books and take them through the True-False items presented on pages 86 and 87.

Present the Six Tune-out Modes by having participants in the class act them out in front of the group.

For those who are interested, challenge participants with item 3 of the Challenge of the Day and have them report on their experience.

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: 20-30 minutes
Follow-up time in class: 20-30 minutes

DEALING WITH DIFFICULT PEOPLE
Kill ‘Em With Kindness

Priority Rating: Important

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Introduce the activity, using the ideas in the text on page 91, and then lead participants through the Seven Hot Tips for Dealing with Difficult People. Have them share the tips that they plan to put into practice.

Discuss the “Power of Kindness,” using the ideas presented in the text on pages 93 and 94. Ask participants to respond to item 1 in the Challenge of the Day.

Adapt item 5 in the Challenge of the Day by asking the group to brainstorm aloud the ways in which they can be kind to people in other areas of their life, including work.
(Skills 26-30) Making the Job Work for You

26  MAKING A DIFFERENCE
    Focusing on Your Purpose

Priority Rating: Important

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Have participants keep their books closed as you tell the story of the three stonemasons on page 98. Follow the story with examples of finding purpose in work, using the examples on page 98 or examples of your own. Have each participant identify and share with the group the purpose they believe they will find in the work they are entering. If the kind of position they are going into is unknown, assign participants a hypothetical position.

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

27  MAKING WORK MEANINGFUL
    Put Your Values to Work

Priority Rating: Essential

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Have participants take the Work Values Assessment, following the directions on page 100. After they have identified their top three values, have them brainstorm responses to the three questions listed on the top of page 101.

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A
28  LIVING EACH DAY GRATEFULLY
Redefining Wealth

Priority Rating: Important

*Adaptation for Pre-Employment:*

Read “The Sculptor” on page 102 aloud to the group or have the group read it silently to themselves.

Have participants respond to the mini-assessment on page 103 following the directions.

Present the ideas in Tips 2 and 3 on pages 104 and 105, using ideas from the text.

Have participants respond to items 1 and 3 from the Challenge of the Day and share their responses with the group.

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

29  LEARNING FROM A MENTOR
A Smart Step In Moving Forward

Priority Rating: Important

*Adaptation for Pre-Employment:*

Introduce the topic of mentoring by telling the story on page 107. Discuss the common questions about mentoring on pages 108-110 or assign specific questions to particular individuals to present to the rest of the group.

Have participants respond to the two tasks in the Challenge of the Day on pages 110 and 111. Have the group report their findings and results to the group in a subsequent meeting.

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: 30-40 minutes
Follow-up time in class: 30-40 minutes
BALANCING LIFE AND WORK
Food for the Soul

Priority Rating: Essential

Adaptation for Pre-Employment:

Present the ideas expressed on pages 114 and 115 regarding the importance of "balancing life and work". Have the group follow the directions on page 116 and commit to three of the ideas on the list to practice and report on to the group in a subsequent meeting.

Estimated timeframe in class: 20-30 minutes
Outside of class: Depends on what they commit to.
Follow-up time in class: 15 minutes
Summary of 30 Ways to Shine as a New Employee: Pre-Employment Workshop Outline

INTRODUCTION (Essential)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

(Skills 1-5) New Beginnings

1  CALMING NEW EMPLOYEE JITTERS (Essential)

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: 10 minutes
Follow-up time in class: 30 minutes

2  DEALING WITH CHANGE (Essential)

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

3  UNDERSTANDING WORKPLACE CULTURE (Essential)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: 30 minutes
Follow-up time in class: 30-60 minutes

4  MEETING NEW PEOPLE (Important)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: 15-20 minutes

5  SATISFYING EMPLOYER EXPECTATIONS (Important)

Estimated timeframe in class: 20 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A
## (Skills 6-10) Stepping Out

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>6</strong></th>
<th><strong>LEARNING TO RELATE IN THE COMPANY STYLE</strong> (Helpful)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Estimated timeframe in class: 15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Outside of class: 30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Follow-up time in class: 1 or 2 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>7</strong></th>
<th><strong>CLARIFYING PERFORMANCE GOALS</strong> (Essential)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Estimated timeframe in class: 15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Outside of class: N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Follow-up time in class: N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>8</strong></th>
<th><strong>PAYING ATTENTION TO YOUR SURROUNDINGS</strong> (Important)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Estimated timeframe in class: 20-30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Outside of class: N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Follow-up time in class: N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>9</strong></th>
<th><strong>LEARNING FROM MISTAKES</strong> (Important)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Outside of class: N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Follow-up time in class: N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>10</strong></th>
<th><strong>NOT LETTING WORRY CRAMP YOUR STYLE</strong> (Important)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Estimated timeframe in class: 30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Outside of class: N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Follow-up time in class: 30 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(Skills 11-15) Developing Habits for Success

11 REFLECTING THE COMPANY IMAGE (Helpful)

Estimated timeframe in class: 20 minutes
Outside of class: 15 minutes
Follow-up time in class: 1 hour

12 EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS: GOING THE EXTRA MILE (Essential)

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

13 SHINING IN THE EYES OF THE CUSTOMER (Essential)

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

14 BEING A TEAM PLAYER (Essential)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

15 SURVIVING OFFICE POLITICS (Important)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A
(Skills 16-20) Gifts of Perspective and Choice

16 CHOOSING TO THINK POSITIVE (Important)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

17 FACING YOUR FEAR AND FINDING COURAGE (Important)

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

18 BREAK BAD HABITS OF THE MIND (Helpful)

Estimated timeframe in class: 15-20 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

19 COPING WITH EVERYDAY LIFE (Helpful)

Estimated timeframe in class: 20-30 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

20 TAKING SMALL STEPS TO CHANGE (Essential)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: Depends on the actions committed to
Follow-up time in class: 15 minutes
(Skills 21-25) Take the Bitter with the Sweet

21 CONTROLLING YOUR ANGER (Essential)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

22 MAKING YOURSELF UNDERSTOOD (Helpful)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

23 BENEFITING FROM PRAISE AND CRITICISM (Essential)

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

24 DEVELOPING THE ABILITY TO REALLY LISTEN (Essential)

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: 20-30 minutes
Follow-up time in class: 20-30 minutes

25 DEALING WITH DIFFICULT PEOPLE (Important)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A
(Skills 26-30) Making the Job Work for You

26  MAKING A DIFFERENCE (Important)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

27  MAKING WORK MEANINGFUL (Essential)

Estimated timeframe in class: 30-45 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

28  LIVING EACH DAY GRATEFULLY (Important)

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: N/A
Follow-up time in class: N/A

29  LEARNING FROM A MENTOR (Important)

Estimated timeframe in class: 45-60 minutes
Outside of class: 30-40 minutes
Follow-up time in class: 30-40 minutes

30  BALANCING LIFE AND WORK (Essential)

Estimated timeframe in class: 20-30 minutes
Outside of class: Depends on what they commit to.
Follow-up time in class: 15 minutes
# 30 Ways to Shine as a New Employee

## PLANNING MATRIX

### New Beginnings (Skills 1-5)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. <strong>Calming New Employee Jitters</strong> — <em>Think Progress, Not Perfection</em></th>
<th>Communication</th>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Attitude</th>
<th>Work Habits</th>
<th>Problem Solving</th>
<th>Team Building</th>
<th>Informational</th>
<th>Diversity Skill</th>
<th>Stress Reduction</th>
<th>Initiative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seven helpful hints for dealing with the stress of being a new employee! Helps alleviate the self-induced stress typical of new employees.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2. <strong>Dealing with Change</strong> — <em>Prepare for the Winding Road of Transition</em></th>
<th>Communication</th>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Attitude</th>
<th>Work Habits</th>
<th>Problem Solving</th>
<th>Team Building</th>
<th>Informational</th>
<th>Diversity Skill</th>
<th>Stress Reduction</th>
<th>Initiative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A detailed map of four stages of transition often experienced in a new job and great tips for dealing effectively with each stage. Lends a necessary perspective to employees who feel lost in those first few weeks on the job.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. <strong>Understanding Workplace Culture</strong> — <em>When in Rome, Do as the Romans Do</em></th>
<th>Communication</th>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Attitude</th>
<th>Work Habits</th>
<th>Problem Solving</th>
<th>Team Building</th>
<th>Informational</th>
<th>Diversity Skill</th>
<th>Stress Reduction</th>
<th>Initiative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An invaluable assessment of workplace culture through an inventory of written and unwritten rules and protocol. Essential tool for job retention!</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4. <strong>Meeting New People</strong> — <em>Take Advantage of a Clean Slate</em></th>
<th>Communication</th>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Attitude</th>
<th>Work Habits</th>
<th>Problem Solving</th>
<th>Team Building</th>
<th>Informational</th>
<th>Diversity Skill</th>
<th>Stress Reduction</th>
<th>Initiative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Great suggestions for starting new relationships off on the right foot. Builds self-confidence and eases the new employee’s integration onto the work team!</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5. <strong>Satisfying Employer Expectations</strong> — <em>Fifteen Key Behaviors</em></th>
<th>Communication</th>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Attitude</th>
<th>Work Habits</th>
<th>Problem Solving</th>
<th>Team Building</th>
<th>Informational</th>
<th>Diversity Skill</th>
<th>Stress Reduction</th>
<th>Initiative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A practical survey listing essential behaviors expected in today’s workplace. May serve as “reality therapy” for some!</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 30 Ways to Shine as a New Employee

#### PLANNING MATRIX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stepping Out (Skills 6-10)</th>
<th>Communication</th>
<th>Assertiveness</th>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Attitude</th>
<th>Work Habits</th>
<th>Problem Solving</th>
<th>Team Building</th>
<th>Informational</th>
<th>Diversity Skill</th>
<th>Stress Reduction</th>
<th>Initiative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6. <strong>Learning to Relate in the Company Style — <em>Dance with Wolves</em></strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights what to watch for, listen to and ask about in order to relate in the company style. An often overlooked but important aspect of job retention.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. <strong>Clarifying Performance Goals — <em>Target Your Goals and Make Them SMART</em></strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assists new employees to develop work goals that are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Timely. Essential for effective skill development!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. <strong>Paying Attention to Your Surroundings — <em>Your Workplace as a Learning Place</em></strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lists fourteen categories of workplace learning that go beyond traditional competencies. Inspires a learning attitude bent towards growth. Especially helpful in a position the new employee considers repetitive or unchallenging.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. <strong>Learning From Mistakes — <em>Make Fresh Ones, Not the Same Ones</em></strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encourages the new employee to view mistakes as a fundamental source of workplace learning rather than as failure. Crucial for building self-esteem and taking the fear out of learning.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. <strong>Not Letting Worry Cramp Your Style — <em>Adopt the Gretzky Approach to Making “GOALS”</em></strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Replaces unproductive “worrying” with a willingness to take risks. In the words of the great hockey player, Wayne Gretzky, “100% of the shots you don’t take don’t go in.” This helps new employees identify the shots they are refusing to take.
### Habits for Success (Skills 11-15)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Communication</th>
<th>Assertiveness</th>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Attitude</th>
<th>Work Habits</th>
<th>Problem Solving</th>
<th>Team Building</th>
<th>Informational</th>
<th>Diversity Skill</th>
<th>Stress Reduction</th>
<th>Initiative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11. Reflecting the Company Image — <em>Play to Your Audience</em></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prompts the new employee to look with a keener eye at the company image and how he/she should reflect that image in his/her position.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Exceeding Employer Expectations — <em>Go the Extra Mile</em></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Simple, usable guidelines for the employee to look beyond the normal confines of a job and find a way to go the extra mile in his/her position. Promotes a sense of personal responsibility for being valued on the team.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Shining in the Eyes of the Customer — <em>Roll Out the Carpet in Service</em></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Explores the parameters of customer needs and desires and suggests new and compelling ways to enhance customer service. Another great way to increase the new employee’s sense of personal power on the job!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Being a Team Player — <em>Develop Your Human Relations Skills</em></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A potpourri of practical ideas on how to become a valuable player on the team and develop good relationships with co-workers. Everyone will appreciate the benefits from this one!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Surviving Office Politics — <em>Develop Workplace Savvy</em></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Twenty hot tips for relating well in a community of people and avoiding the inner-office politics that often arise in a work setting. Important information for employees new to the workforce!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# 30 Ways to Shine as a New Employee

## PLANNING MATRIX

### Gifts of Perspective and Choice
(Skills16-20)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Communication</th>
<th>Assertiveness</th>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Attitude</th>
<th>Work Habits</th>
<th>Problem Solving</th>
<th>Team Building</th>
<th>Informational</th>
<th>Diversity Skill</th>
<th>Stress Reduction</th>
<th>Initiative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

16. **Choosing to Think Positive — Overlook the Mud and See the Stars**
   - Reinforces the importance of how our thinking profoundly affects our experience and can change an obstacle into an opportunity. New employees will relate to and benefit from the examples provided!

17. **Facing Your Fear and Finding Courage — Look the World Straight in the Eye**
   - Suggests a series of steps for overcoming fear and mustering everyday courage. A respectful approach to a difficult topic – crucial for the new employee whose confidence is lacking.

18. **Breaking Bad Habits of the Mind — An Experiment in Attitude**
   - Identifies a dozen bad habits of the mind and proposes a plan for replacing these habits with more healthy ones that result in a better attitude at work.

19. **Coping with Everyday Life — The Art of Flexibility**
   - Inspires the new employee to increase the ability to be flexible and cope with the stress of everyday life in the workplace. An important issue for the employee who is new to the workforce.

20. **Taking Small Steps to Change — Use Time Wisely**
   - A simple and straightforward activity that reinforces the value of using time in a focused way and encourages small steps to change in life and work.
30 Ways to Shine as a New Employee

PLANNING MATRIX

Taking the Bitter with the Sweet
(Skills 21-25)

| 21. Controlling Your Anger — Keep Your Head So You Don’t Lose Your Job |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Communication | Assertiveness | Performance | Attitude | Work Habits | Problem Solving | Team Building | Informational | Diversity Skill | Stress Reduction | Initiative |
| ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| A sensible and direct approach to identifying and controlling one’s anger in the workplace. A variety of options are suggested for what to do or where to go with one’s anger. This skill may prevent circumstances that could otherwise become explosive. |

| 22. Making Yourself Understood — Choose the Right Words to Express Your Feelings |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Improves the new employee’s ability to articulate and express his/her feelings and promote effective communications with supervisors and co-workers. |

| 23. Benefiting from Praise and Criticism — Respond Well to Feedback |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Presents effective strategies for responding well to feedback and using praise and criticism to grow and improve on the job. This perspective is critical for new employees who are not used to receiving constructive criticism or who react defensively to feedback. |

| 24. Developing the Ability to Really Listen — Be All Ears and Don’t Tune Out |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Emphasizes the value of the ability to listen and helps the new employee identify his/her tune-out mode. This may be the most underrated and most critical job retention skill of all! |

| 25. Dealing with Difficult People — Kill Em’ with Kindness |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Equips the new employee with perspective and practical ideas for dealing with difficult people. Important skill for dealing with the inevitable challenges of a workplace community. |
# 30 Ways to Shine as a New Employee

## PLANNING MATRIX

### Making the Job Work for You (Skills 26-30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Communication</th>
<th>Assertiveness</th>
<th>Performance</th>
<th>Attitude</th>
<th>Work Habits</th>
<th>Problem Solving</th>
<th>Team Building</th>
<th>Informational</th>
<th>Diversity Skill</th>
<th>Stress Reduction</th>
<th>Initiative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>26. Making A Difference — Focus on Your Purpose</strong></td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes the new employee’s focus from getting to giving and strengthens the new employee’s sense of purpose on the job. Great self-esteem booster!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>27. Making Work Meaningful — Put Your Values to Work</strong></td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motivates the new employee to look at work as something you bring meaning to rather than get meaning from. Helps new employees assess their work values and set an action plan for bringing those values to work.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>28. Living Each Day Gratefully — Redefine Wealth</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔️ ✔️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fosters an “attitude of gratitude” and highlights the multitude of ways in which the new employees already enjoy an abundance of wealth in their lives. A great perspective-buster for entry-level employees who feel discouraged from having to start at the bottom.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>29. Learning From a Mentor — A Smart Step in Moving Forward</strong></td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A terrific summary of the meaning, purposes and how-to’s of mentorship as well as a tool and action plan for pursuing mentorship. Engenders the goal of career development.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>30. Balancing Life and Work — Food for the Soul</strong></td>
<td>✔️ ✔️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔️ ✔️ ✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultivates an appreciation for life and work and the importance of creating a healthy balance in order to cope with the stress of employment. Includes a list of 26 creative ideas for enhancing the new employee’s life outside of work.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>