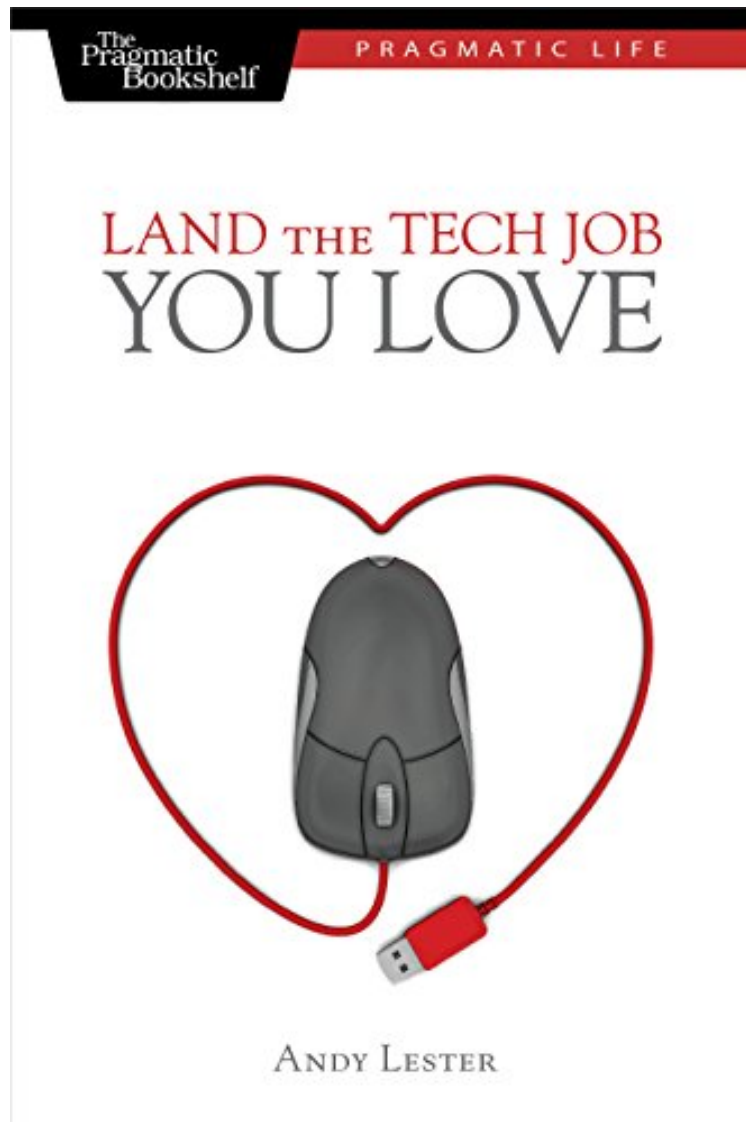


Land the Tech Job You Love (Pragmatic Life)

Andy Lester

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Andy Lester : Land the Tech Job You Love (Pragmatic Life) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Land the Tech Job You Love (Pragmatic Life):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Practical Wisdom About Tech JobsBy William P RossThis book does a nice job of preparing a person for the hiring process. Some useful topics were how to present your work, how to improve a resume, figuring out the job you want, and how to apply for it.In the resume section the author recommends giving an executive summary based on actual accomplishments. Some of the points were common sense, but others were new for me. Many times the author showed what people commonly put on resumes, and then ways to rewrite it

so it sounds better. One aspect I found lacking was information on technical questions. There was little information about how to answer technical questions, except to say you should emphasize what you actually worked on. I would like to see more ways to prepare yourself for technical questions... although I know other books address this more in depth. There was a reasonable amount of useful information in this book for me to be satisfied with the purchase. It is a good starting point for someone who is in the process of applying for a technical job.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Must-read book if you're looking for a developer job
By Joshua Carmody
This is a great book, especially for the resume advice. Although I'm an experienced developer, my resume hadn't been eliciting much of a response when I applied for jobs. After reading this book and rewriting it from scratch, I landed an interview with a great company immediately. There are tons of "how to get a job" books out there, but this one is very specific to developer jobs and the advice is especially good within that field.

11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Valuable for job seeker AND hiring manager
By VM Brasseur
I read this book from the perspective of a former developer who's now responsible for hiring and managing developers. Having been on both sides of the fence now I feel confident in saying that Andy's written a book that's great for everyone in the tech industry. The writing here is direct, unintimidating and no-nonsense. Andy knows what geek job seekers need to hear and--more importantly--how to say it so they'll actually listen. At each point he doesn't simply say "do this" but he also includes the oft-overlooked WHY. This sort of insight helps technically-minded folk grok the problem in fullness, allowing them to adapt their approach to the specific company/job at hand rather than simply rattling off canned answers. In essence, he's broken the job-getting process into a set of well-defined use cases, each with fully documented business logic.

As I said, this is a book for everyone. As a hiring manager reading this book I constantly found myself thinking of ways in which my own department/company could improve its own hiring and interviewing processes. After reading this book I now feel better prepared to get the right person for our team. It's very obvious that Andy fully understands the hiring managers' point of view. The first time he said (paraphrased), "The hiring manager WANTS to hire you: interviewing for a position is a pain in the ass that she'd rather be done with" I practically applauded. That sort of perspective is necessary to get the point across to the job seeker that we're all in this together. In summary, this is a great book, an engaging read and well worth your time to pick up. I believe so fully enough that I've already purchased it for a friend in need of a change of professional venue.

You've got the technical chops -- the skills to get a great job doing what you love. Now it's time to get down to the business of planning your job search, focusing your time and attention on the job leads that matter, and interviewing to wow your boss-to-be. You can't just wing it. As a techie, you're a special breed, with special challenges facing you in the job search. Your competition is smart, tech-savvy, and highly resourceful. Expectations among employers are higher. Your competition will run you over if you're not up to the challenge. Land the Tech Job You Love gives you the background, the skills, and the hard-won wisdom to bypass the mistakes of those who don't prepare. You might not think you need this book. Conventional Wisdom has it that finding a job is simple: send some resumes, go on some interviews, and take the offer that sounds best. But that's only the start. You've got the background and skills to work the Web and other resources that the general job seeker doesn't. This book shows you how to take advantage of those skills or be left behind by competing techies who do. It all starts with an examination of you, your strengths, and where you want your career to take you. Without a roadmap, you'll wind up in any old job. Life's too short to spend in a job that you don't love. From there, you'll see how to find the job you want that fits you and the employer, using your technical and web savvy to find the hidden jobs that never make it into the classifieds or Monster. "Marketing" is not a dirty word, and you'll learn how to present yourself, your skills, and your background in the way that shows the hiring company that you're the right person for the job. Create a resume that tosses out conventional wisdom, write cover letters that sell your background, and assemble a portfolio of work that will wow the interviewer. Social networking has been the darling of the Web in the past few years, but it's no substitute for the sort of personal interaction that makes relationships that help in future careers. As one manager said, "One recommendation is worth a million resumes." This book shows you how to make and maintain the connections that will drive your future career moves. Land the Tech Job You Love pulls no punches and lays out the details for what gets you an interview, and gets you hired in a job in the technical world that makes you happy.

About the Author
Andy Lester started with computers early by keypunching letters to Grandma on IBM 029 punchcards. Now into his third decade of professional software development, he's the QA Release Manager for Socialtext. Andy is also in charge of PR for The Perl Foundation and maintains over 25 modules on CPAN. Andy's two latest book projects are Mac OS X Tiger In A Nutshell from O'Reilly, and Pro Perl Debugging from Apress.