

RESUME TEMPLATE CHECKLIST



General

- 1 page preferred (2 pages acceptable only if you have 5+ years of experience)
- Standard business fonts: Calibri, Arial, or Times New Roman; 10-12pt body text
- Margins: ½ to 1 inch wide on each side; No text should extend past the employed dates (right aligned)
- Section Titles: 10.5 bolded font
- Consistent formatting throughout with clear visual hierarchy
- Professional appearance – no photos, graphics, or excessive colors
- Save as PDF to preserve formatting
- Proofread carefully – typos can undermine your application

Header

- Name: 14-point bolded font, prominent at top; use the name you go by professionally
 - If Multiple Names: First Legal Name “Preferred Name” Last Name (Ex: Xijing “Anna” Chen)
- Contact Information: Professional email, phone number, LinkedIn URL (remove hyperlink)
- Location: City and state (no full address needed)
- Remove: Objective statements, “References available upon request”

Education Section

- List degrees in reverse chronological order (most recent first)
- Bold: University names and degree types
- Graduation date on the right-hand side of the page, aligned against the margin
- Honors: Dean’s List, Latin honors, merit scholarships, academic awards
- (Optional) GPA X.XX ; (Optional) GMAT XXX
 - Only list GPA if 3.5 or higher; Only list GMAT score if 700 or higher

Professional Experience Section

- List employers in reverse chronological order with no gaps in employment
- Bold: Name of employer, position title, dates of employment
- State: Abbreviated; all caps
- (Optional) Company descriptions, brief, italicized descriptor for lesser-known companies
- Bullets: Task > Action > Results/Impact (qualified when possible)
- 2-4 bullet points maximum for each role; No periods at the end of bullets
- No bullet should span more than 2 lines – be concise
- Begin bullets with powerful, past-tense action verbs and use verbs ending in -ing sparingly (led, developed, implemented, increased)
- Quantify everything possible:** revenue growth, cost savings, team size, budget managed, efficiency gains, customer satisfaction improvements, etc.
- Number Guidelines:
 - Spell out numbers 1-9; use numerals for 10 and above
 - Use % instead of “percent”
 - Use \$K for thousands; \$M for millions
 - Include currency conversions if needed
- If multiple positions with the same employer, put total years with the company to the right and break out years in each position next to the position title

Additional Sections

Include 4-5 bullet options that are differentiators, relevant to function or industry interests

- Recommended options:
 - Community leadership (board positions, volunteer roles, nonprofit involvement)
 - Professional organizations, including memberships, leadership roles, and committee participation
 - Awards and recognition, such as industry awards, company recognition, or community honors
 - Entrepreneurial ventures (side businesses, consulting work, independent projects)
 - Technical skills or computer languages: CPA, CFA, PMP, R, Python, SQL, C#, C++, HTML, Visual Basic, etc.
 - Language Skills: English is assumed, don’t include; utilize basic, intermediate, advanced, and native to describe your language speaking/writing skills. Ex: Spanish (Native)
 - Keep concise: 3-5 lines maximum for this entire section