

WHAT CAN
FATHER
CHRISTMAS DO...

...NOW HE'S FURLOUGHED?

SKILL: HARD WORK



“I have to manufacture, package and deliver presents to the world’s 1.9 billion 0-14 year olds. On top of that, I manage and house a workforce of 3,000 elves, keep the factory running, deal with the millions of letters that start to stack up in December, and make sure the reindeer are fed and watered.

Working hard helps you achieve results, keeps you motivated, and is rewarding. It also shows the people around you that you care about your work, demonstrating to your boss that you’re an important member of the team. But don’t overwork yourself – a good work/life balance is really important. I find time to put my feet up with a mince pie and a glass of sherry most evenings – hic!”



WHERE NEXT?

FIREFIGHTER: (AVERAGE SALARY – £34,000 PER YEAR)

THE ROLE OF A FIREFIGHTER IS TO PROTECT THE LIVES OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC DURING POTENTIALLY LIFE-THREATENING SITUATIONS. THEY ARE ON CALL 24/7 TO RESPOND TO EMERGENCIES INCLUDING CAR CRASHES, WATER RESCUE, CHEMICAL SPILLS, AND OF COURSE, FIRES. THE JOB IS CHALLENGING, DANGEROUS AND OFTEN INCREDIBLY STRESSFUL BUT PROVIDES HIGH LEVELS OF JOB SATISFACTION.

SKILL: LEADERSHIP

“ONE GUY. 3,000 ELVES. AND A LOT OF WRAPPING.

THE ABILITY TO INSPIRE AND MOTIVATE A TEAM IS CRUCIAL TO GETTING THE JOB DONE. MY MANTRA IS THAT A GOOD BOSS LEADS BY EXAMPLE, SO I’M NEVER AFRAID TO GET MY HANDS DIRTY WHEN THINGS GET BUSY. I TRY TO BE KIND AND PATIENT AND TREAT EVERYONE AS AN INDIVIDUAL – SO LONG AS THEY PLAY FAIR. TO MY MIND, THESE ARE THE KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF ALL THE BEST LEADERS.

YOU MAY NOT GO INTO WORK A FULLY FLEDGED LEADER – AND NO ONE WOULD EXPECT YOU TO. YOU SHOULD STILL TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO HONE YOUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS – WHETHER THAT’S BY CAPTAINING THE SPORTS TEAM, LEADING A CLUB OR SOCIETY, OR EVEN FOUNDING YOUR OWN. IF YOU’RE THE QUIET TYPE, HOW ABOUT TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR SOMETHING AS PART OF YOUR TEAM OR GROUP - YOU DON’T HAVE TO BE IN CHARGE.”

IF YOU WERE ABLE TO
BELIEVE IN SANTA CLAUS
FOR LIKE 8 YEARS, YOU CAN
BELIEVE IN YOURSELF FOR
LIKE 5 MINUTES.

#FITPOSSIBLE daily path

PROJECT MANAGER

NATIONAL AVERAGE SALARY: £63, 500 PER YEAR

PRIMARY DUTIES: PROJECT MANAGERS ARE TYPICALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSEEING THE PROCESSES OF TAKING ON AND COMPLETING PROJECTS. DEPENDING ON THEIR INDUSTRY, PROJECT MANAGERS MAY OVERSEE THE PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF DIFFERENT PROJECTS, INCLUDING MAINTAINING BUDGETARY STANDARDS AND DEADLINES. PROJECT MANAGERS CAN ALSO ACT AS TEAM LEADERS, HELPING MOTIVATE AND INFLUENCE EMPLOYEES TO ACHIEVE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.



WHERE NEXT?

SKILL: GOOD ORGANISATION

“IF I SPENT THE YEAR SUNNING MYSELF IN THE MALDIVES AND LEFT ALL THE HARD WORK TILL DECEMBER, THINK OF ALL THOSE DISAPPOINTED FACES ON CHRISTMAS DAY! THOROUGH PLANNING IS ESSENTIAL TO OPERATION CHRISTMAS. THAT MEANS CALCULATING HOW MANY CHILDREN WE’LL HAVE TO DELIVER TO THE FOLLOWING YEAR (EVEN THE ONES WHO HAVEN’T BEEN BORN YET), RECORDING NAUGHTY CHILDREN, PLANNING THE MOST EFFICIENT ROUTE, AND ENSURING EVERYONE GETS JUST WHAT THEY ASK FOR.

BEING WELL-ORGANISED HELPS YOU STAY AHEAD OF DEADLINES, PLAN IMPORTANT TASKS WITH ENOUGH TIME TO SPARE, AND LETS YOU FOCUS ON THE WORK, NOT THE ADMIN, WHEN IT COMES TO THE CRUNCH. POOR ORGANISATION ON THE OTHER HAND MEANS LESS TIME FOR REFLECTION, MISSED OPPORTUNITIES, MORE MISTAKES AND **ADDED STRESS**. ELF TEAM LEADERS MANAGE MY WORKFORCE, AND I ALWAYS IMPRESS ON THEM THE IMPORTANCE OF STAYING AHEAD OF THE GAME.”



WHERE NEXT?

EVENT PLANNER:

THIS IS SIMILAR TO A WEDDING PLANNER EXPECT YOU WILL NOT BE CONFINED TO JUST ORGANISING THE BIGGEST DAY OF SOMEONE'S LIFE. YOU COULD BE ORGANISING PARTIES, FUNCTIONS AND ALL OTHER TYPES OF LOW-KEY OR EXTRAVAGANT EVENTS. YOU WILL GET TO BE IN CHARGE OF EVERY DETAIL INCLUDING GUEST LISTS, ANY ACCOMMODATION IF NEEDED AND KEEPING TRACK OF COSTS. THE BEST PART FOR ALL OUR ORGANISED FRIENDS OUT THERE IS, DEPENDING ON THE EVENT, YOU MIGHT EVEN GET TO PLAN THE ENTIRE NIGHT'S ITINERARY DOWN TO THE MINUTE.

DID YOUR HEART JUST START RACING A LITTLE WITH EXCITEMENT?

IF NOTHING PLEASES YOU MORE THAN GETTING TO STAND BACK AND SEE THE RESULT OF YOUR HARD WORK AND AWESOME ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS THEN YOU WILL PROBABLY LOVE THIS ONE.

SALARY: APPROXIMATELY £27,500 PER YEAR.



SKILL: PUNCTUALITY

“SO CHRISTMAS EVE ROLLS AROUND – THE BIG NIGHT IS HERE, AND IT’S ALL OR NOTHING! WITH SO MANY CHILDREN TO VISIT, EVERY MOMENT COUNTS. IF I’M NOT PUNCTUAL TO THE SECOND, SOMEONE’S GOING TO BE LEFT WITHOUT A PRESENT.

PUNCTUALITY HELPS YOU STICK TO YOUR PLAN, MAKES A GOOD IMPRESSION ON YOUR BOSS AND COLLEAGUES, AND HELPS YOU AVOID FEELING LIKE YOU’RE CONSTANTLY CATCHING UP. IT’S ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR INTERVIEWS AND ON YOUR FIRST DAY AT WORK – IT’S ALWAYS A MARK DOWN FOR ANY ELF WHO TURNS UP LATE TO INTERVIEW.”



WHERE NEXT?



EVERY JOB REQUIRES YOU TO BE PUNCTUAL, OTHERWISE YOU WON'T BE IN IT FOR LONG!

ONE EXAMPLE WHERE PUNCTUALITY IS IMPORTANT IS WHEN YOU ARE AN ANAESTHETIST.

ANAESTHETISTS ARE SPECIALIST DOCTORS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING **ANAESTHESIA** TO PATIENTS FOR OPERATIONS AND PROCEDURES. IN ADDITION **ANAESTHETISTS** HAVE A RANGE OF PRACTICE WHICH EXTENDS BEYOND **ANAESTHESIA** FOR SURGERY TO INCLUDE PAIN MANAGEMENT AND INTENSIVE CARE. WITHOUT THEM, IMPORTANT OPERATIONS CANNOT GO AHEAD.

AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: RANGES FROM £29,000 - £75,000.



SKILL: GOOD WITH PEOPLE

“I WOULDN’T BE WHERE I AM NOW IF I DIDN’T KNOW HOW TO WORK WITH PEOPLE. THE ELVES KEEP ME ON MY TOES, AND I HAVE TO MAKE SURE THEY COMPLETE THEIR TASKS.

THIS YEAR HAS BEEN ESPECIALLY TOUGH ON ALL OF US, BUT KNOWING HOW TO KEEP PEOPLE MOTIVATED, AS WELL AS BEING ABLE TO DEAL WITH THE FEW ANGRY DOGS I ALWAYS SEEM TO ENCOUNTER, HAS WORKED WELL.

IF PEOPLE DIDN’T BELIEVE IN ME...I WOULD BE OUT OF A JOB – AND I CAN’T HAVE THAT, CAN I ?”

WHERE NEXT?

HAIRSTYLIST

MANY HAIRSTYLISTS ARE EMPLOYEES OF SALONS, WHILE OTHERS RENT A BOOTH AND WORK FOR THEMSELVES. IN EITHER CASE, YOU MAY BE ABLE TO SET YOUR OWN SCHEDULE BASED UPON THE HOURS YOU'RE AVAILABLE TO WORK. THE BETTER YOU ARE WITH PEOPLE, THE MORE CLIENTS YOU WILL HAVE ON YOUR BOOKS. EVERYONE LOVES TO CHAT TO THEIR HAIRDRESSER...EVEN IF IT HAS BEEN HARD TO SEE THEM THIS YEAR!

SALARY: HAIRSTYLISTS EARN AN AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY OF £25,000, THOUGH YOU CAN MUCH MORE BY ALSO HAVING MOBILE CLIENTS.



SKILL: CAN WORK ALONE

“I SPEND A LOT OF MY TIME JUST ON MY OWN WITH MY THOUGHTS. I KNOW THE REINDEER ARE THERE FOR ME, BUT THEY JUST LIKE TO KEEP CHATTERING TO THEMSELVES AT TIMES. I THINK THEY SULK TOO AT HAVING TO PULL ME AROUND ALL NIGHT!

BEING ABLE TO WORK ALONE IS A SKILL WORTH DEVELOPING, AS WORKING INDEPENDENTLY MEANS YOUR BOSS CAN TRUST YOU TO DO THINGS LIKE WORK AT HOME, OR TAKE ON CHALLENGES. YOU SHOULDN'T NEED PEOPLE CHASING YOU UP FOR DEADLINES. BE LIKE ME. GO HAN...GO SOLO!”

WHERE NEXT?



COPY EDITOR/PROOF READER

DO YOU HAVE TOP-NOTCH GRAMMATICAL SKILLS AND EYES LIKE AN EAGLE? COPY EDITORS AND PROOF READERS ARE USED BY COMPANIES THAT PRODUCE CONTENT FOR THE WEB AND FOR PRINT. FREELANCE AND PART-TIME JOBS ARE PLENTIFUL, THOUGH YOU MAY NEED TO PASS A COPYEDITING TEST TO GET HIRED.

SALARY: COPY EDITORS EARN AN AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY OF £25–30, 000, WHILE PROOF READERS EARN AN AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY OF £25,000.