# HACKING THE CYBERSECURITY RESUME

Mary McHale
MICS Career Advisor

# Agenda

- General Advice
- Section-by-section tips
  - Content
  - Formatting
- Creative resumes
- Q&A

# Resume writing is both art and science.

A resume gets you an interview, It does NOT get you a job!



# Career Hack



Get through the 3 hiring gates!



# Can your resume get past the three hiring gates?



# First Gate



# **Second Gate**



**HR Screener** 

# Final Gate



Hiring Manager

# Career Hack



Understand the Recruiting Process!





How long, on average, will recruiters spend reading your resume?

As little as 6 seconds!\*

\*The Ladders eye tracking study

# In 6 seconds, recruiters see...

Name

- Education
- Job titles/company names
- Job start/end dates
- Relevant keywords



# **Employers** want to:

- Minimize the hiring risk
- Find out what you know your skills and strengths
- Determine how fast you could get to work
- Understand why you are applying for job, how does it make sense as a next step?

Do you "fit"?

# Career Hack



Understand the mind of the employer

# Your resume should be:

- Targeted
- Supportive of your "brand"
- Concise
- Accomplishment-driven

Interesting!



# Your resume should not be:

- All inclusive of your entire career (a "CV")
- A simple chronology of your jobs
- A list of all of your job responsibilities/tasks
- Cut and paste list of past job descriptions
- Your LinkedIn Profile
- Filled with mistakes, misspellings, typo's Berkeley School of Information

# Resume Review: It's all about the Content

3249 18th Street San Francisco, CA 00000 415.222.1548 | pcandersen@gmail.com www.conman.com

Professional Profile

A former Python and Java programmer with newly acquired skills, an insatiable intellectual curiosity, and the ability to mine hidden gems located within large sets of structured, semi-structured and unstructured data. Able to leverage a heavy dose of mathematics and applied statistics with visualization and a healthy sense of exploration.

Education

University of California, Berkeley - Master of Information and Data Science

2015 (anticipated)

Part-time, two classes per semester; Relevant Courses include: Research Design & Applications for Data & Analysis, Exploring & Analyzing Data, Visualizing and Communicating Data

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2010

Skills and Tools

NoSQL data stores (Cassandra, MongoDB)

D3.js, Tableau

Hadoop, MySQL, Big Table, MapReduce, Mahout

Python, iPython, C, C++, Java, Javascript, R

Experience

Data Analyst

Accelerated Pipeline

San Francisco, CA

2012 - present

- Work closely with various teams to identify and solve business challenges utilizing large structured, semi-structured, and unstructured data in a distributed processing environment.
- Analyze large datasets and present findings in focused visualizations to provide strategic direction for business analysis team.
- Develop tools and reports that help users access and analyze data resulting in high revenues and margins and a better customer experience.
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- Collaborate with product teams to develop and support our internal data platform and to support ongoing analyses.

Sharknado San Francisco, CA 2010 - 2012

Software Engineer

- · Coded, tested, debugged, implemented and documented apps using Java and Ruby.
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2014

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# **Required Sections:**

- Name
- **Contact Information**
- Education
- Professional Experience

## Recommended:

- Skills / Tools
- **Professional Profile**
- **Projects**

# **Optional:**

- Honors / Awards
- **Publications**
- **Patents**

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#### 2014

## **Contact info:**

## Recommended:

- Phone
- Email
- LinkedIn
- Website/portfolio

## Optional:

- City/state (and country if applying for jobs in another country)
- Street address
- Zip code

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# **Professional Profile:**

- Recommended, but not required
- "Sets the stage" & introduces your brand
- Helpful for career changers
- Don't be redundant of your experience section
- Keep it brief: 2 4 sentences
- Usually written in implied first person (no personal pronouns)

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## **Education:**

- Undergrad, grad, relevant non-degree coursework
- Position near the top if: you are in school, recently graduated, or MIDS/MICS is pivotal to your target job
- May include list of relevant courses
- Don't need to list full attendance dates or include months (keep it consistent)
- Note future graduation date as "anticipated" if more than

University Name	
Yes	No
University of California, Berkeley (with a comma)	University of California at Berkeley (do not use 'at')
UC Berkeley (with a space)	University of California – Berkeley or UC-Berkeley (do not use a hyphen)
	U.C. Berkeley (do not use periods in 'UC')

Degree Name	
Yes	No
Master of Information and Cybersecurity  ('Master' is singular; use 'of' not 'in'; capitalize when writing the full degree name.)	Master of Cybersecurity
	M.A. (or master of arts) or M.S. (or master of science) in



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## **Skills & Tools:**

- Highly recommended
- Technical skills only
- Tailor this to the job!
- Use descriptors carefully ("advanced", "proficient", etc.) or not at all
- Optional-group by OS, Platform, Language, Tools

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# **Experience:**

- Keep it relevant, tailored
- Past 10-15 years
- Can include internship / unpaid / volunteer
- Be sure to showcase YOU and not just the company / projects
- Start descriptions with Strong action verbs; check verb tense
- Use relevant keywords
  - Use consistent punctuation

## CHRIS S. CYBER

phone number christyper@gmail.com website, baked a a kub etc.

#### SUMMARY

If you decide to use this section, keep it short and relevant! A few sentences or a short paragraph. Make sure it reflects your brand and is interesting to the reader (which means, you may have to update it depending on the job you are applying for). Make sure you show your professional value to the reader.

#### EDUCATION

#### University of California, Berkeley - Master of Information and Cybersecurity

Anticipated 2021

RELEVANT COURSES: If you list relevant courses, be sure the titles make sense to the reader! Don't list a course they wouldn't know! Another section you could list instead of relevant courses is "focus areas"; if you do this section, be sure that your focus areas make sense together and don't paint a picture of you as "unfocused". You may also consider highlighting course projects and Capstone.

University of Wisconsin, Madison - Bachelor of Computer Science

2010

#### CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), [ISC)/ Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH), EC-Council

Date

Security+, CompTIA

Date

#### **TECHNOLOGY SKILLS AND TOOLS**

Programming: list your programming languages

Security: list the security software you have experience with

Operating Systems: list the operating systems you have worked in

#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### Business Name, City, State

THILE

date - date

- List your jobs from most recent to least recent.
- If you've been at one job for a long time or have a LOT of experience there (i.e., a lot of bullets); you can break up
  the bullets by subheadings such as "leadership & innovation", "technical skills", "projects", etc.
- Start your descriptions with action verbs! Use implied first tense. Pay attention to verb tense-use present tense for
  your current job, and past tense for previous jobs.

#### Business Name, City, State

3307

date - date

- The most important thing you should do when writing your descriptions is to showcase your strengths, skills, and
  accomplishments. Do NOT just write what you did (i.e., what you were responsible for, what tasks you completed).
   Always include some element of why you did it, or how you did it, or who you did it with (i.e., how you collaborated or communicated), or what impact you made.
- Make sure descriptions are action oriented and talk mostly about what you did, not what the product was or what
  the project accomplished. Spoon-feed the reader; spell out why it is relevant.

#### Business Name, City, State

TITLE

date - date

 A good article to read to gain information about what to put in the description can be found here: http://ti.me/liEKMdM

# **Experience:**

- Describe your accomplishments: include why, how, who, impact/results/ outcomes or skills used
- Quantify where applicable
- Impact to business
- Showcase transferable skills
- Only include relevant details

# The Art of Writing Content

Laszlo Bock, former Google Senior Vice President of People Operations:

"The key," he said, "is to frame your strengths as:

# 'I accomplished X, relative to Y, by doing Z.'

Most people would write a resume like this:

'Wrote editorials for The New York Times.'

**Better** would be to say:

'Had 50 op-eds published compared to average of 6 by most op-ed writers as a result of providing deep insight into the following area for three years.'

... Most people don't put the right content on their resumes."

# Gareer Hack



Bottom line...show RESULTS



## **STAR Interview Method**

**Situation Context / Background** "I was in X job..." "My role was..." Task Specific problem or challenge "I was tasked to do X ..." Action Identify the steps you took to solve the problem and/or add value Result What is the outcome or accomplishments from your actions? "Because I took this action, X happened..." Quantify when appropriate



# Accomplishment Examples

- Saved money/increased revenue
- Saved time/increased efficiency
- Improved a process, service, or product in a tangible or measurable way
- Reduced errors in a process
- Won award/recognition
- Completed project on schedule and on budget
- Completed project ahead of schedule and under budget
- Led team to success (describe success)
- Exceeded goals (describe how far you exceeded)
- Describe scale ("managed team of 10 analysts"; "managed projects with budgets up to \$5 million")



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# **Projects:**

- Highly recommended for career changers
- Great for showing off NEW skills / strengths
- Include project title, brief description, tools used, affiliation, date
- Be specific!
- For group projects, focus on YOUR role
- Position high or low on resume depending on relevance of your other content

# Career Hack



ONLY ONE CHANCE FOR A FIRST IMPRESSIONS

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#### Core Competencies

Strategic Thinking: Able to influence the strategic direction of the company by identifying opportunities in large, rich data sets and creating and implementing data driven strategies that fuel growth including revenue and profits.

Modeling: Design and implement statistical / predictive models and cutting edge algorithms utilizing diverse sources of data to predict demand, risk and price elasticity. Experience with creating ETL processes to source and link data.

Analytics: Utilize analytical applications like SAS to identify trends and relationships between different pieces of data, draw appropriate conclusions and translate analytical findings into risk management and marketing strategies that drive

**Drive Enhancements:** Develop tools and reports that help users access and analyze data resulting in higher revenues and margins and a better customer experience.

**Communications and Project Management:** Capable of turning dry analysis into an exciting story that influences the direction of the business and communicating with diverse teams to take a project from start to finish. Collaborate with product teams to develop and support our internal data platform and to support ongoing analyses.

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Analyze large datasets to provide strategic direction to the company.

Perform quantitative analysis of product sales trends to recommend pricing decisions.

Conduct cost and benefit analysis on new ideas.

Assist in developing internal tools for data analysis.

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- Make sure descriptions are action priented and talk mostly about what you did, not what the product was or what
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#### Business Name, City, State

TLE

date - date

 A good article to read to gain information about what to put in the description can be found here: http://ti.me/liEKMdM

## CHRIS S. CYBER

phone number chrisoyper@gmail.com website, Linkodin oʻzhub etc.

#### SUMMARY

If you decide to use this section, keep it short and relevant! A few sentences or a short paragraph. Make sure it reflects your brand and is interesting to the reader (which means, you may have to update it depending on the job you are applying for). Make sure you show your professional value to the reader.

#### EDUCATION

#### University of California, Berkeley - Master of Information and Cybersecurity

Anticipated 2021

RELEVANT COURSES: If you list relevant courses, be sure the titles make sense to the reader! Don't list a course they wouldn't know! Another section you could list instead of relevant courses is "focus areas"; if you do this section, be sure that your focus areas make sense together and don't paint a picture of you as "unfocused". You may also consider highlighting course projects and Capstone.

University of Wisconsin, Madison - Bachelor of Computer Science

2010

#### CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), [ISC)2

Date

Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH); EC-Council

Date

Security+, CompTIA

Date

#### **TECHNOLOGY SKILLS AND TOOLS**

Programming: list your programming languages

Security: list the security software you have experience with

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#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### Business Name, City, State

TITLE

date - date

- List your jobs from most recent to least recent.
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3249 18<sup>th</sup> Street, San Francisco, CA 00000 415.222.1548 pcandersen@gmail.com www.conman.com

#### **Professional Profile**

A former Python and Java programmer with newly acquired skills, an insatiable intellectual curiosity, and the ability to mine hidden gems located within large sets of structured, semi-structured and unstructured data. Able to leverage a heavy dose of mathematics and applied statistics with visualization and a healthy sense of exploration.

Name: Make it large! Suggested 28-32 pt. font

## CHRIS S. CYBER

phone number chriscyber@gmail.com website, LinkedIn, github etc.

#### SUMMARY

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Contact Info: Can be smaller font (9-11pt)

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phone number chriscyber@gmail.com website, LinkedIn, github etc.

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# Career Hack



Feed the bots!

3249 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 00000

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#### Core Competencies

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**Drive Enhancements:** Develop tools and remargins and a better customer experience **Communications and Project Managemer** direction of the business and communication product teams to develop and support our

#### **Skills and Tools**

- NoSQL data stores (Cassandra, Mongo
- Hadoop, MySQL, Big Table, MapReduce
- D3.js, Tableau
- Python, iPython, C, C++, Java, Javascrip

#### Experience

Accelerated Pipeline, San Francisco, CA

2012 – present, Data Analyst

Work closely with various teams across the semi-structured, and unstructured data in Analyze large datasets to provide strategic

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## **Headings:**

- Guide the reader's eyes
- Make them stand out: use **bold**, larger font, <u>underline</u>, caps, SMALL CAPS, section lines, and/or color



## Peder Connor Andersen

3249 18<sup>th</sup> Street, San Francisco, CA 00000 415.222.15

#### Professional Profile

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#### Experience

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2012 – present, Data Analyst

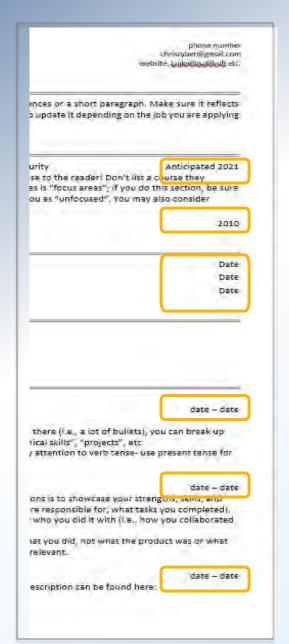
Work closely with various teams across the company to semi-structured, and unstructured data in a distributed Analyze large datasets to provide strategic direction to Perform quantitative analysis of product sales trends to Conduct cost and benefit analysis on new ideas.

Assist in developing internal tools for data analysis.

## Sharknado, San Francisco, CA

2010 – 2012, oftware Engineer

-Coded, tested, debugged, implemented and document



## **Dates:**

- Consider where you place datesright margin is preferred
- Months are recommended but not required
- Be consistent!



## Peder Connor Andersen

3249 18<sup>th</sup> Street, San Francisco, CA 00000 415.222.15<sup>4</sup>

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## Experience

## **Accelerated Pipeline**

Data Analyst

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## Sharknado

Software Engineer

- Coded, tested, debugged, implemented and docu
- Developed a Commerce solutions and social networks improving user experience.
- · Designed, developed and maintained eCommerce
- Built report interfaces and data feeds to improve
- Gathered and collected information from various prepared documentation to change existing progr

## Spacing:

White space is your friend, use it wisely

## **Example:**

- 8-12pts before each heading (12)
- 3-6pts after each heading (6)
- 2-4pts between items in the section (3)



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## **Bullets & Lists:**

- Bullets help reader scan effectively
- Try columns for short lists for skills or competencies



## CHRIS S. CYBER

phone number chrisoyaer@gmail.com website, Ligkodin a blaib etc.

## SUMMARY

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## Business Name, City, State

13475

date - date

 A good article to read to gain information about what to put in the description can be found here: http://ti.me/1iEKMdM

## **General Format Tips:**

- Length: 1 page unless
   5-10+ years of experience
- Margins: 0.25 1"
- Format: Text for ATS
   Use PDF for emailing
- Color: tasteful, be sure prints well in black & white
- Font size: 10-12 pt.
- Language: write in implied first person, pay attention to tenses
- Typos/errors: Noneproofread! Watch your capitalization!

## CHRIS-S.-CYBER¶

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Hyou decide to use this section, keep-6 short and relevant i-A few sentences to grab their attention and highlight subgroup are a great-conditate. Make sure it reflects your brand and in interesting to the reader (which means, you may have to update it...

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Section Break (Continuous)			
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• - SaaS   Cloud Computing	<ul> <li>Software Development</li> </ul>	• - Leadership*]	
•— IT-Strategy¶	Lifecycle*]	• Team Development*]	
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## Company or Organization, City, Street

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- Start-your-descriptions with action-vertal-line implied first-tense. Pay attention-to-serb-tense-use-present-tense-for-your-curve shipts, and combinese for previous jobs.

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## SKILLS-AND-TOOLS¶

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Certified Ethical Hacker (CEI (), 6C-Council — Date(I)
Security-y-CompTIA — Date(I)

## EDUCATION¶

University of Wisconsin, Madison - Bachelon of Computer Science

-

2010] -

## **Section Options:**

- Key Skills or Competencies
- Reflect key words
- Make it easy to see qualifications

## **Content Order:**

- Flexible
- Reflects amount of experience
- Education either at top or bottom

## CHRIS-S.-CYBER¶

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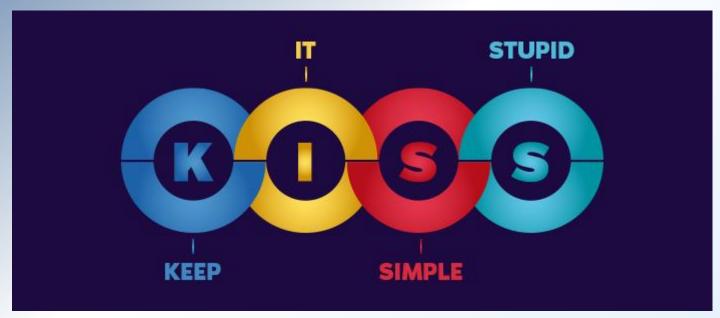
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* Agile / SAER Methodologies*	<ul> <li>Enterprise Architecture¶</li> </ul>	•-+ Software Engineering*)
• - SaaS   -Cloud-Computing¶	<ul> <li>Software Development</li> </ul>	• Leadership¶
•→ IT-Strategy¶	Lifecycle¶	* Team Development*)
1		
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	CERTIFICATIONS ¶	
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Relevant Courses: If you list relevant co	urses, be sure the titles make sense to th	e-reader I-Dom't-list a-course they
vou lán't know! -		
University of Wisconsin, Madison—Bac	helon of Computer Science	20101 ==

## **Order of Content**

- Flexible
- Reflects amount of experience
- Decide which sections will open doors for you
- Education typically on top for new grads- moves to bottom with experience

# Career Hack



KISS!

## Creative Resumes

- Creative styles may help showcase your talents, add visual interest
- Less is more graphics shouldn't overshadow content
- Experiment w/ fonts, colors, and layouts before adding graphics
- Be careful of using comparison graphs to display skill levels-all relative
- Get a second opinion, don't get personally attached to the design
- Make sure it is easy to read and comprehend too many visual elements can overwhelm the reader
- Online portfolio or website may be a better place to demonstrate creativity



## **Challenge of Creative Resumes**







## But don't do this!



Berkeley

School of Information

# Final Thoughts

# YOU do the work... so the reader doesn't have to!

- Be careful with industry jargon and acronyms
- Be concise and targeted
- Use the employer's words (read job postings)
- Remember you may only get 6 seconds!

## Make it easy for the reader to understand your:

- strengths and accomplishments
- business value
- and what is unique about YOU!

# Resources

## **Career Advising:**

https://www.ischool.berkeley.edu/careers/students/advising

## **Resume Review:**

https://www.ischool.berkeley.edu/careers/students/resumereview

## **Resume Resources & Templates:**

https://www.ischool.berkeley.edu/careers/students/guides#resumes

## Webinar Recording & Slides:

https://www.ischool.berkeley.edu/events/2020/modernize-your-resume-0

## Contact:

marymchale@berkeley.edu



# **Questions and Answers**