

9 Tips for Job-searching Veterans

The U.S. News and World Report blog published a piece today on what veterans should do to help themselves get a job. Many of the points made echo ones we've written about in our [Career Advice section](#), but since it's fun to have lists, here's the nine tips that the [U.S. News and World Report piece](#) suggest:

- 1. Identify your skills.** Which are translatable to a civilian job?
- 2. Note your accomplishments.** Explain your awards and achievements in terms that a civilian employer can understand.
- 3. Focus on what you enjoy doing.** Talk about your intangible skills — your leadership ability, your communication abilities, etc.
- 4. Research potential opportunities.** Based on your skills, use job boards such as [Military.com's Job Search](#) to pinpoint jobs that match your skills.
- 5. Make a list of job titles and company names.** Was there a particular industry that appeared repeatedly in your results? Continue to search online for more information about those fields or organizations.
- 6. Inform your network.** Get connected with those in your job [network](#) and be as specific as you can in terms of specific companies and positions you're looking for.
- 7. Translate your experience.** Describe your military experience in your resume and applications in terms that employers can understand. Focus on the skills you needed to do what you did in the military.
- 8. Be sure to include specific, quantifiable points in your descriptions.** Don't assume that employers will understand military terms and organizational structure. When describing your accomplishments, use specific figures (i.e., number of servicemembers you led) and dollar amounts (i.e., headed \$2 million construction project).
- 9. Tell your story.** Avoid military jargon, and use stories of problems you solved in the military to show off your skills.