

IDENTIFY YOUR CAREER MOTIVATORS - WORKSHEET

Use this worksheet to brainstorm your career motivators, come up with related career ideas, reflect on your career de-motivators and tease out your key career motivators.

Step 1: Identify your career ideas

Answer the following questions—there are no right or wrong answers (if you can't answer a question, leave it blank).

Contribution motivators

What interests and activities energize you?

What skills do you really enjoy using?

What activities engage you so completely that you lose track of time?

What subject or knowledge areas are you drawn to?

What are the first two or three sections that you head for in a bookstore?

What causes are you passionate about?



Work Environment motivators

How do you see yourself working with others (as a leader, support person, subject matter expert, etc.)?

When you think of yourself working successfully on a team, what are your team members like and how are you working together?

When you think of the physical environment that makes you feel engaged and energized, what does it look like (office, lab, outdoors, at home, always changing, etc.)?

Lifestyle motivators

What kind of income do you want (amount, steady income, freelance, benefits, etc.)?

How much time per week are you willing to devote to your work?

Where (geographically) do you see yourself building your career?

Is there anything else you need from your work to support the life you want to build?

Step 4: Synthesize your career motivators

Review your answers in Step 1 and the information in the right hand columns of Step 2 and Step 3. Look for patterns and themes, and synthesize these themes into a set of five to seven statements that summarize your key career motivators. Make sure that at least two or three of your statements describe your contribution motivators. Include enough detail to be meaningful and don't worry if some of your motivators seem to conflict with one another, or if they're not realistic right now—it's all part of the journey.

Remember:

Don't include names of specific occupations; instead, describe what draws you to that occupation. Focus on what you want and don't let de-motivators creep into your list.

Your key career motivators