



Top 5 Ways to Reduce the Risk of Losing Your Job

Thinking that you have nothing to offer or that your boss doesn't care about you is the most common concern amongst American workers who are at risk of losing their job.

To remedy this concern, there are many things you can do to stand out, stay positive, and get through these times while getting yourself noticed and keeping your job.

1. First of all, the "woe is me" attitude will get you nowhere. The people who give up before they start will get you noticed, but not in the way that means keeping your job. Keeping things around you that remind you of what makes you special and different will keep your spirits up when everything & everyone around you is not. Pictures of family, gifts from friends, a comfortable sweater draped over your desk chair, a drawing from a special child in your life, a calendar of funny sayings, anything that will make you smile, keep around you and look at often. Don't forget that there are a lot of reasons to be happy and if you are in that mindset, your work will reflect that.
2. Instead of going to work every day spending time waiting for the axe to drop, why don't you consider dedicating one hour of your day, 5 days a week to doing something outside of your normal job responsibilities? Start thinking of ways to save your company money by reevaluating processes, make recommendations to the leadership team that could influence morale and make the team as a whole more productive and happier. Be a change agent and act as a role model for the group. It will not only get you noticed by the people making the big decisions, but you'll feel better about yourself and your contributions, too.
3. Change is never easy, but instead of standing around the water cooler going on and on about budget cuts and half your department being let go, use that time to put yourself in your president's shoes and brainstorm ways to get through these times. If you owned the business you worked for, what would you do differently? How would you do it? Write down these ideas and request a lunch or coffee date with your manager or even better, the business owner. Present your ideas and ask to head a committee for embracing the change and working through it. Show that you are a team player, while creating a very good reason to keep you on staff.
4. Don't rest on your past accomplishments. Just because you did well on a project 6 months ago doesn't mean you are invincible when it comes to reorganization. Keep thinking of ways to reinvent yourself and the way you do your work. If you are unhappy with the assignments you are given or the way you are treated, think of ways to improve your situation so you can do your job with ease. Go to your manager with radical ideas. Don't be afraid to speak your mind. The more times you do it, the more opportunities you'll get to hear a "yes".

5. Don't be the cancer. Every company has one, and everyone who wants to be successful stays away from the people who get in the way of that. Everyone who thrives on the drama is addicted to it and therefore becomes a target during a layoff. If you are finding yourself in a never-ending spiral of negativity, consider the fact that you may be part of what is holding your company back. Change the way you look at your work, at your co-workers, your boss, your product or service, and your CEO. Take a big picture approach to everything you do and start removing yourself from the gossip. Your work and demeanor will reflect that shift and you will feel better about going in to work every day.

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