

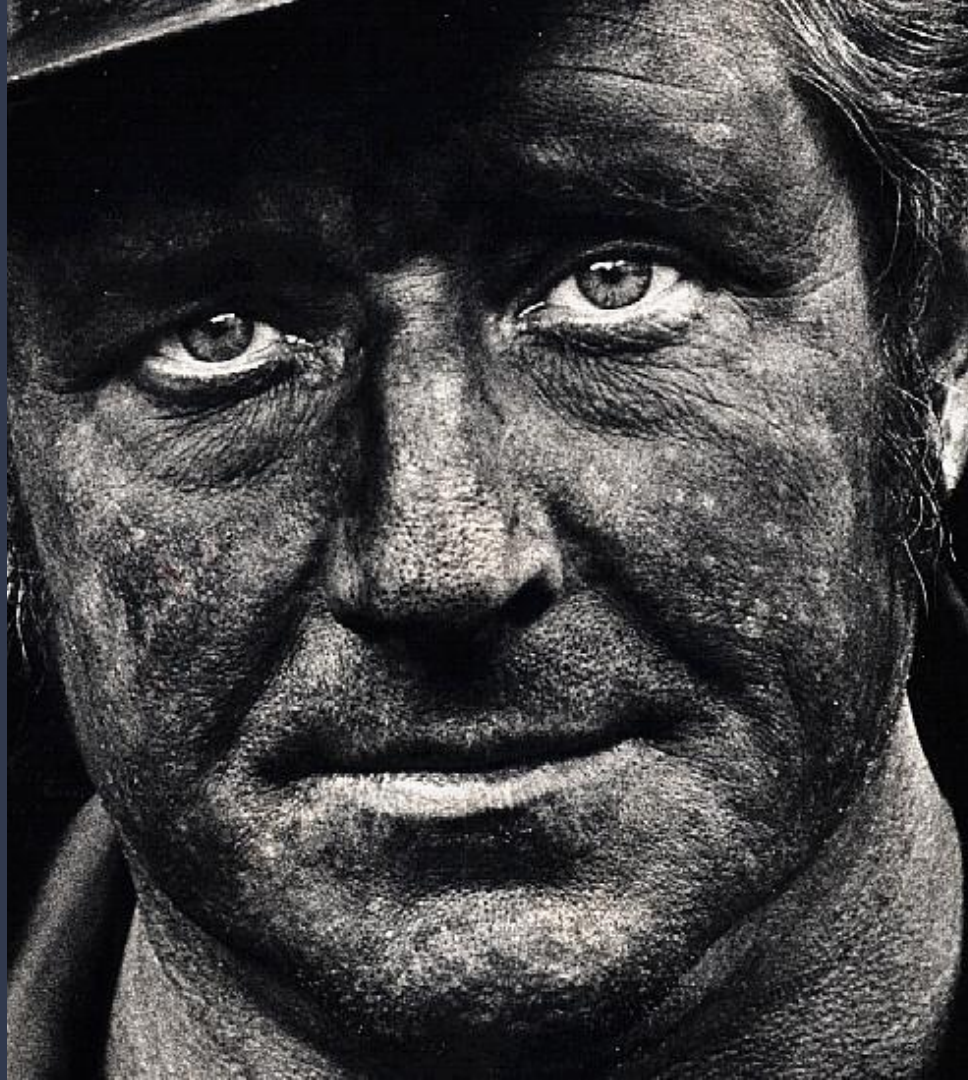
#CoVid19JobHunt

Job searching in the age of Covid

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Background

- October '19: UHG Culls UX, I lose the job it took 2500 resumes to find.
- Mid-November '19: I sign up to lead research for Lowe's Home Improvement for Supply Chain & Merchandising.
- At the same time, a virus finds life in China from a seafood market.
- February '20: UHG Culls More; tons of friends lose their job. I put a post out inviting others to connect so that we can all band together.
- March '20: Virus kills my job. I move back to Colorado.
- March '20: #CoVid19JobHunt is born.





Joel Barr

Corporate Recruiters Welcome - no 3rd Party. Actively seeking a position. Senio...

3w •



So I'm going to do something different, than before. I've always wanted to do this, but was told to hush about it. In 2 wks our economy seems to have become the emperor's new clothes, and we see, just how fragile things are. All because of a little bug that stopped the world.

Much like most of my friends on here, I'm "working" from home. But not working. I'm trying to find a job. In the single quickest recession in our history. 1500 miles away from home in CO. Imagine that, for a sec. I want to document that. Last time I was in this position it took me a little over a month to find the Lowe's H.I. contract job, and that was in a good economy.

I will do my best not to reveal the secrets of company's interview processes (they'll keep me honest, no doubt.) We'll call it the [#covid19jobhunt](#) - and so that you don't have to read paragraphs of my banal flourishes and meanderings - I will try to write my thoughts Doogie Howser style.

Day One (yest): Applied to a few. Toward end, was told by a friend I trust that my resume didn't work anymore. Put it into dry dock.

Day Two: Two interviews; one with Preya from JCPenney (who had my old resume...d'oh!) & Laura with Indeed dot com - both went well (I thought) will get feedback tomorrow/soon. [#jobsearch](#)[#findajob](#)

117 • 38 Comments

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What have I learned so far?

- People are actually reading my postings. And commenting. Then writing me letters both in support and in criticism and disbelief.
- Not only is there a ton of confusion out there,
 - a TON of fear about what happens when someone unveils what it is like to look for a UX job.
- Wit and humor are incredibly important.
- I am always mindful to criticize gently.
- It is important to call out good interviews I've had - people love to be praised. So praise them lavishly and honestly.



I get letters ALL the time.

- 85%: Gratitude, encouragement, empathy, sentiment.
- 14% Help me. Can you please sacrifice some time for me. Etc. (the answer is ALWAYS yes.)
- The rest are "You're nuts for doing this. Word is going to get around and no one is going to want to hire you." (btw, my mom is one of them)

Standing Policy:

- If someone is nice enough to write me, good/bad/indifferent - I always write them back in long form.
- Thank people for their criticism, apologize if you're wrong and own it. (it happens)
- I try to answer folks within 12 hours, and every phone call is returned.

What advice do I have for job seekers?

- Get involved with your community. Volunteer to help others. Serving others is a sign of a great leader.
- Keep a schedule. Get up, make your bed, kiss your partner, get out and start curning applications and resumes. Just like you still have a job.
- Find something to do for breaks. For me, it's baking bread/cookies for folks that need it.
- When the day is done, record what you've completed that day. Keep a log.
- Send thank you note e-mails to the folks that interview you.
- Post updates for your contacts and wanderers onto your page (heck, use the hash - I made it for everyone)
- Find mentors, ask questions, be gracious with their answers (even if they're critical)
- Give YOURSELF grace. Once you send your resume, not a thing after is in your control. Just let it go.