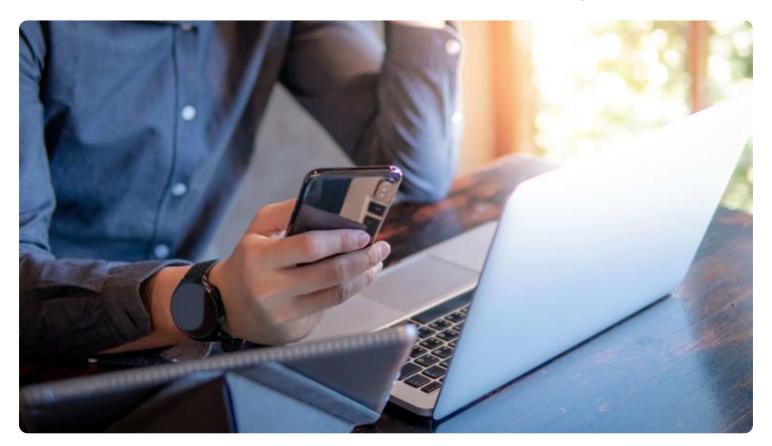
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Avoid these common pitfalls of resume-writing services



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Creating a resume from scratch isn't the easiest job assignment — but it's a necessary one. It not only details your professional experience, but it also should be done in a way that engages and entices hiring managers.

If you're not confident in your own skills, you may want to enlist the help of a professional.

"Many of us were never taught how to sell ourselves on paper," said Melanie Denny, certified resume expert and the president of <u>Resume-Evolution</u> . "If you struggle to articulate your value, a good resume writer will be able to do this for you."
But finding a good resume writer may be harder with millions of Americans on the job hunt during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. If you want the extra help, make sure it's worth it first by avoiding these pitfalls.



(Photo: Getty Creative) · Nattawan jayawan / EyeEm via Getty Images

Beware of frauds

Just because someone claims they're an expert doesn't mean they really are.

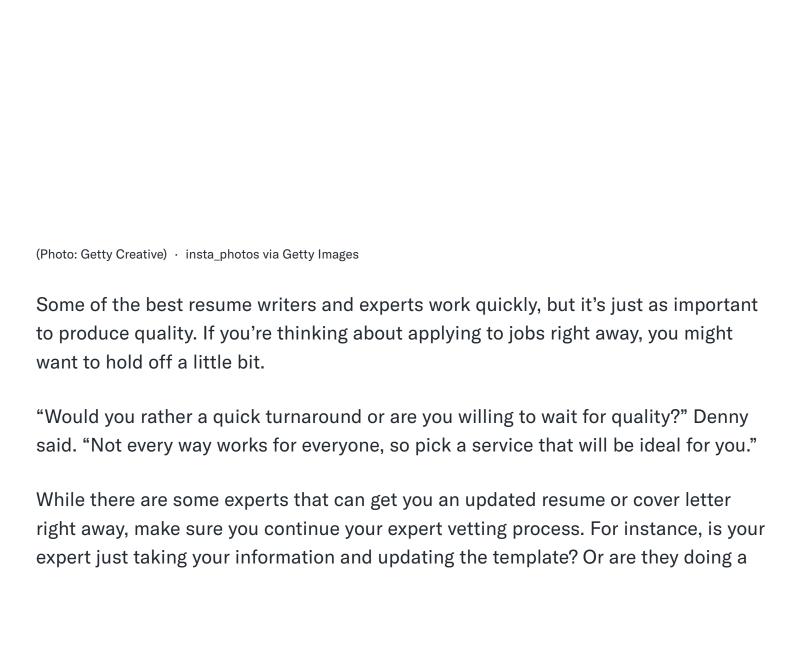
"Not everyone has taken the time to master this craft and immerse themselves in this industry," Denny said. "Make sure at the very least they are certified, but also consider their notoriety, industry association affiliations, training, and background."

Before you hire anyone, check out what they've done before. Ask for references, see samples of their work, and talk to them about their process. Regardless of cost, it's important to do your due diligence to make sure this person is who they say they are.

Find out what they know by asking specific questions. For instance, if you're talking to a so-called expert that doesn't know how to fit your details into an ATS-friendly document, that's a red flag. ATS, or applicant tracking system, helps companies recruit and hire potential employees. The structure of your resume and cover letter matters.

"The time and effort it takes to create a unique document that can pass the ATS, appeal to recruiters, and attract hiring managers can be a long, daunting process," Denny said. "Sometimes it's better to focus on what you do best and allow experts to help you with the aspects you may struggle with."

Don't expect a quick turnaround



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