JobHacki
OPPORTUNITY GUIDE

⚡ **Premium Action Guide**

Boring Jobs That Pay Well

A practical playbook to pick an underrated path, prove you can do the work, and build a lightweight application routine—without hype.

📌 **Updated for 2026** 🧾 **≈ $0.02** AI-tailored resume per job (source-reported)

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🚀 Start Fast

Clear first steps you can take this week.

📋 Real Sources

Built from people who actually did it.

💰 Honest Numbers

Source-reported pay, costs, and risks.

Get the Full Guide Vault →

🔒 Includes checklists, scripts & source-backed insights

YOU WILL LEARN

- ☑ What you'll build
- ☑ Step 1 — 🧭 Pick a lane that fits
- ☑ Salary Estimate
- ☑ Platforms & tools
- ☑ Step 2 — 🔬 Run a 30-day SOC vs GRC test
- ☑ Step 4 — 🛡️ Build SOC evidence you can explain

▸ MODULE 01

What you'll build

A clear path into low-glamour, high-reliability roles (support, healthcare admin, cybersecurity, project coordination, data) plus a proof-of-work portfolio. You'll also set up a small automation to find roles, tailor resumes, and manage outreach—so you spend time interviewing, not copying and pasting.

Use this to test a lane in 30 days, generate role-appropriate evidence, and run a respectful, structured job search across LinkedIn, Indeed, Upwork, and more.

1. Pick a lane (SOC, GRC, PM, Data, Support/Healthcare)
2. Build role-specific evidence you can explain
3. Search smarter on 4 primary platforms
4. Automate scraping + resume tailoring into Sheets
5. Interview with concrete examples and tight follow-up

▸ MODULE 02

Platforms & tools

Lead & Outreach

4 free · 4 paid

LinkedIn · Upwork · Loom · Cal.com · Apollo · Smartlead · Fiverr · Instantly

Website Builders

0 free · 2 paid

Lovable · GoHighLevel

AI Models

0 free · 5 paid

OpenAI · ChatGPT · Claude · Gemini · Anthropic

Dev & Hosting 0 free · 2 paid

GitHub · VS Code ·

Automation 3 free · 1 paid

Make.com · n8n · Apify · Zapier ·

▸ MODULE 03

Step 1 — 🧭 Pick a lane that fits

Aim for reliable, process-driven roles most people overlook: cybersecurity (SOC or GRC), project coordination, data/ML analyst, healthcare records/patient support, and non-phone customer support. These reward accuracy, communication, and systems thinking.

> **Tip**
> Before choosing: which job description makes you curious, what background you bring, what evidence you can build in 30 days, your local market's demand, and where you want to be in 3 years.

▸ MODULE 04

Step 2 — 🔬 Run a 30-day SOC vs GRC test

Spend 15 days on SOC: read 5 SOC ads, learn SIEM/log/phishing basics, do one defensive lab or log write-up, and summarize takeaways. Then 15 days on GRC: read 5 GRC ads, learn risk/control/audit/framework language, create a small risk register or control mapping, and summarize.

End by comparing curiosity, clarity of explanation, and strength of resume evidence. If both appeal, pick one to focus on for the next 90 days.

> **Tip**
>
> Don’t pick GRC because it seems easier—good GRC demands clear writing, evidence, stakeholder management, and technical understanding.

▸ MODULE 05

Salary Estimate

SOC analysts: monitor alerts, review logs, triage incidents, investigate phishing, check endpoint alerts, follow response playbooks, and document findings.

GRC analysts: maintain policies/standards, risk registers, control assessments, supplier reviews, regulatory mapping, and explain gaps to the business.

▸ MODULE 06

Step 4 — Build SOC evidence you can explain

Complete 1–3 explainable pieces: a basic SIEM or Windows event log analysis with a short write-up, a phishing analysis, or a defensive path on a lab platform with notes. Show what you did, what you observed, and why it mattered.

> **Tip**
>
> Avoid vague bullets like “Completed SOC labs.” Instead, write one strong bullet per artifact: what you built, the signals you hunted, and the outcome.

▸ MODULE 07

Step 5 — 📋 Build GRC evidence that signals judgment

Create a sample cybersecurity risk register, a basic security policy, a mock supplier security review, or a control mapping (e.g., to ISO 27001). If in Australia, reference Essential Eight, the Information Security Manual, third-party risk, privacy obligations, internal audit, and CPS 234 in finance.

On your resume, replace generic interest lines with concrete bullets that reference risks, controls, owners, testing, and decisions.

▸ MODULE 08

Step 6 — 🩺 Target healthcare admin & patient support roles

Daily work often includes processing medical records requests, sending authorization forms, retrieving records, assisting patients, managing tickets, and handling email/phone. Strong fits: detail orientation, HIPAA familiarity, medical terminology, Microsoft Office, and prior admin/data entry/billing or receptionist experience.

Telemedicine advocate/enrollment roles add enrollment coordination, assessments tracking, preparing families, CRM updates, and outreach cadence.

> **Tip**
> Many teams train you on their systems. Emphasize fast learning and accuracy. Some roles require occasional weekends/holidays—check schedules up front.

▸ MODULE 09

Step 7 — 💬 Land non-phone customer support jobs

Non-phone support uses Zendesk or Intercom to manage tickets, chat, and internal tools. Showcase calm problem-solving, patience under pressure, and times you went above and beyond. Add role-fit keywords (e.g., member support, healthcare, communication, organization, problem-solving; or Python/Zendesk/Intercom/API/JSON/basic SQL when relevant).

> **Tip**
>
> Recruiters are often not decision-makers. Connect with hiring managers or their leaders. After applying, email, don't spam DMs. Record short Loom intros that scroll through your LinkedIn so it doesn't look like a static screenshot.

▸ MODULE 10

Step 8 — 🗂️ Project coordinator path with Excel mastery

Use Excel to run projects: project review, budget, sprint tracker, project tracker, schedule, status report, milestone tracker, and planner. Learn time management: plan schedule, define and sequence activities, estimate resources/durations, develop and control schedule. Build a simple Gantt (stacked bar + labels + reversed task order + adjusted date axis).

Practice stakeholder analysis (power, legitimacy, influence, impact), conflict resolution (compromise, problem-solve, smooth, accommodate), vendor selection (cost-plus, fixed price, T&M), and independent quality audits. Know key terms: lead, lag, rolling wave, analogous/parametric estimating, effort, duration.

> **Tip**
>
> Project managers shouldn't audit their own quality management—use a team independent of delivery.

▸ MODULE 11

Step 9 — 📈 Data/ML analyst starter kit

Start with fundamentals: what a model is, training vs inference, scaling, sampling, and evaluation. Work through data collection → cleaning → EDA → visualization → statistics → modeling → evaluation → iteration. Cover supervised (regression vs classification), unsupervised (no labels, no predictions), semi-supervised, and reinforcement learning basics.

Hands-on: begin with linear regression, then logistic regression, k-NN, decision trees, random forest, SVM, XGBoost/CatBoost. Preprocess with min-max or z-score (pick based on distribution/algorithm), handle missing values (drop <5% or impute; use median for skewed), engineer features, cross-validate, regularize, and tune hyperparameters. Build with Python data structures (lists, tuples, dicts, sets).

> **Tip**
>
> Most people chase trending tools. Learn foundations first—start with linear regression, then add complexity.

▸ MODULE 12

Step 10 — 🛰️ IT/networking: turn proximity into experience

Leverage your current role to get hands-on with cable rooms, server rooms, or network closets. Talk to working engineers to understand realities of networking jobs. Certifications

help, but interview and soft skills carry weight—be ready to explain your own measurable results.

▸ MODULE 13

Step 11 — 🔎 Choose your primary platform & search smarter

Pick one platform to go deep on first, then add others. Use keywords from the job post in your resume and searches. Research companies and interviewers to tailor outreach.

Platform	What to do in this step
LinkedIn	Search roles + filter by date; research people; connect and ask for insights; keep profile concise with a vertical skills list for quick scanning.
Indeed	Search roles by title + location; set alerts; capture matching posts for your sheet; avoid any auto-apply scraping that violates terms.
Upwork	Complete profile (consultations, catalog, portfolio, skills, testimonials, certs, history, linked accounts). Front-load the first 100 characters with social proof.
Prolific	Qualify for studies aligned to your background; use as supplemental paid work while interviewing.

Tip

Overloaded LinkedIn profiles get skipped. Keep it tight; recruiters read in an “F” pattern.

▸ MODULE 14

Step 12 — 🧱 Set up your data backbone (Sheets + Docs)

Create one Google Sheet to track roles and outputs: Position Name, Job Type, Company Location, Description, URL, Customized Resume (Doc link), Date Created, Posted At, Scraped At. Add columns for screening: first/last name, email, strengths, weaknesses, risk, reward, overall fit, justification. Store tailored resumes in Google Docs, one per application.

> **Tip**
> Design your resume in markdown-style headings and bullets so it converts cleanly into Google Docs. Manually order sections to match the role instead of default reverse-chronological.

▸ MODULE 15

Step 13 — 🗺️ Wireframe your automation before building

Sketch the flow in Excalidraw: triggers, data sources (job boards), transformations (AI tailoring, parsing), destinations (Sheets, Docs), and human-in-the-loop review. This 10-minute map prevents wasted rework.

▸ MODULE 16

Step 14 — 🤖 Build the skeleton in Make.com or n8n

Create two flows: (1) scrape jobs into Sheets, (2) on scrape completion, tailor resumes, write to Docs, and append to Sheets. Use Gmail or your mailer to send application/follow-up emails from the pipeline.

> **Tip**
> Template most text yourself and let AI fill small sections. This keeps outputs predictable and reduces errors.

▸ MODULE 17

Step 15 — 🧩 Connect Google & OpenAI in n8n/Make.com

Google Sheets/Docs: in n8n, create Google credentials, then in Google Cloud make a project, enable Sheets API, configure OAuth consent, add your n8n URL as redirect URI, create OAuth client (web), and sign in. In Make.com, add Google modules and grant access.

OpenAI: add your API key in n8n's OpenAI node or Make.com OpenAI module. Use a structured output schema (JSON) for strengths, weaknesses, risk, reward, fit, and justification.

> **Tip**
> Google's OAuth warning is normal—expand Advanced and accept. Use JSON schema parsers to keep AI outputs consistent.

▸ MODULE 18

Step 16 — 🕷 Scrape Indeed with Apify, then watch for completion

In Apify, grab your API key. Use the Indeed bulk job scraper actor with parameters (e.g., title: "data engineer", location: "San Francisco, United States", max items: 10). In Make.com/n8n, run the actor, then use a separate scenario/flow to watch for task completion and pull the dataset rows. Prefer Apify's watch-runs trigger over fixed-interval polling.

Tip

Avoid auto-applying or violating platform terms. Use scrapes for discovery and tracking; submit applications yourself.

▸ MODULE 19

Step 17 — ✍️ Auto-tailor resumes with AI (then save to Docs)

Create an OpenAI step to transform your base resume into a tailored version using the job description. Save output as markdown-style headings/bullets, then create a Google Doc from it and link that Doc in your Sheet.

PROMPT — RESUME TAILORING

```
System: You customize resumes for specific job posts. Keep original voice.
Output Markdown headings and bullet points only.
User: Base resume:
[PASTE RESUME]
Job post:
[PASTE JOB DESCRIPTION]
Rules:
- Prioritize [TOP 6 KEYWORDS FROM JOB POST]
- Reorder sections for relevance
- Add 2 role-specific bullets using my real experience; no fabrication
- Return JSON with keys: title, summary, skills_bullets[],
experience_bullets[], education_bullets[]
```

Tip

Feed the AI JSON in, ask JSON out. Treat it like an API endpoint for structured, debuggable results.

▸ MODULE 20

Step 18 — 🧾 Extract contacts and score fit automatically

Standardize resume text, then run an information-extractor step to pull first name, last name, and email (all required). Add an AI agent step that compares the resume to the job description and emits strengths, weaknesses, risk, reward, overall fit rating, and a one-paragraph justification. Append these fields to your Sheet for quick triage.

> **Tip**
> Don’t overload one AI step. Use a separate extractor for names/emails and a dedicated analyzer for fit.

▸ MODULE 21

Step 19 — 🗂️ Handle file types and IDs safely

Branch on MIME type to parse resumes from .docx, .pdf, or .txt differently. When converting or downloading from Google Drive, use the correct nested file ID to avoid errors.

▸ MODULE 22

Step 20 — 📮 Email hiring managers and book time

From your flow, send a short, respectful email with your tailored resume link and a calendar link if invited. For candidate scheduling in your own pipeline, you can trigger bookings to update stages or add comments automatically.

TEMPLATE — COLD EMAIL TO HIRING MANAGER

```
Subject: Quick question
Hi [Name],
I noticed you may be leading hiring at [Company]. I’m applying for [Role] and
wanted to share a tailored resume. I’d value a brief chat to show how my
background in [Relevant Strength] maps to your needs.
If useful, here’s a time link: [CALENDAR LINK].
Thanks,
[Your Name]
[Resume Link]
```

> **Tip**
>
> Messaging every manager on LinkedIn after applying is crowded. A concise email with a tailored attachment/link stands out more.

▸ **MODULE 23**

Step 21 — 🤝 Reach out beyond applications

Apply normally with resume and cover letter, then contact three people: the recruiter or hiring manager, someone already in the role, and a sales or team leader. Ask for insight, not favors; reference what you learned in their content or job post.

TEMPLATE — INFORMATIONAL DM

```
I'd be very interested to get your expert opinion on this industry and where
it's going—could you spare some time?
```

▸ **MODULE 24**

Step 22 — 🛠️ Optional: Upwork engine for steady work

Use Upwork for bridge income or to stack repetitive, process-based gigs. Fill out every profile section, lead with proof in the first 100+ characters, and link portfolios instead of attaching heavy downloads. Build an AI assist to draft proposals, a Google Doc proposal, and a Mermaid diagram from each job post.

PROMPT — UPWORK APPLICATION WRITER (JSON)

```
System prompt: You are a helpful intelligent Upwork application writer.
User prompt: Take as input an Upwork job description and return a customized proposal.
Template example: Hi, I do [thing] all the time. I'm so confident I'm the right fit for you that I just created a workflow diagram plus a demo of your {{job description}} in no code. [Link]
About me: [Relevant context].
Rules: Output JSON with keys for each section; use newline-delimited bullets; avoid emojis; use first-person; Spartan tone.
```

PROMPT — GOOGLE DOC PROPOSAL

```
You are a helpful intelligent proposal writer. I’m applying as an automation specialist.
Return JavaScript object notation for a customized proposal with:
- Title of system
- Brief explanation
- Confidence line and step-by-step build plan (left to right flow)
- About me bullets
Rules: casual Spartan voice; no emojis; add any name from the post; step-by-step bullets delimited with "\-"; avoid money/number social proof; first-person.
```

PROMPT — MERMAID DIAGRAM

```
graph TD
A[Receive input from job post] --> B[Generate tailored proposal]
B --> C[Create Google Doc]
C --> D[Send proposal link]
```

TEMPLATE — ASK CLIENT TO CLOSE CONTRACT WITH REVIEW

```
Would you mind ending the contract and leaving an honest review of your
experience? This helps me a ton on Upwork. If you're new to it, I can walk you
through. I'll leave you one as well. Thank you!
```

> **Tip**
>
> Your competition often performs poorly—tight proposals and consistent follow-ups win. Don't attach downloads; link a clean portfolio.

▸ MODULE 25

Step 23 — Optional: Build your own candidate intake (Typeform → ClickUp → Make.com)

If you also recruit or capture inbound interest (e.g., for contract roles), create a Typeform with required contact fields and a Loom link field. In ClickUp, mirror custom fields (name, email, phone, Loom, stage, assigned user, created date, sold-high-ticket yes/no). Trigger automations on stage changes to Webhooks that Make.com watches to send interview invites and update stages. Map boolean answers to ClickUp dropdown IDs with a switch step. Add calendar webhooks to auto-update after booking.

> **Tip**
>
> Use a two-step Typeform pattern in Make.com (watch → list responses) for easier testing and maintenance.

▸ MODULE 26

Step 24 — 📣 Optional: Auto-post credibility content to LinkedIn

Keep a Sheet of generated posts with target times. Build a Make.com scenario that hourly checks the sheet, finds posts due, sanitizes text (replace newlines), and publishes, then schedules the next slot by adding an hour to the latest scheduled time.

> **Tip**
>
> Sort existing scheduled posts and avoid overlaps. Use a variables module to normalize whitespace and Make.com's newline function for clean formatting.

▸ MODULE 27

Step 25 — 🧪 Test, delay, and harden reliability

Run end-to-end with sample inputs and different file types. Use Hookdeck to delay payloads for long waits (hours/days) and apply queues/transformations before Make.com. Add a break/retry pattern with exponential backoff for flaky APIs. Set "store incomplete executions" so you can retry. Use ignore modules where APIs error but still perform the action. Finally, verify Sheets contain job title, description, company, dates, and links to tailored Docs plus screening fields.

> **Tip**
>
> Exponential backoff beats fixed retries. Example retries: 10, 60, 290 minutes.

▸ MODULE 28

Step 26 — 🎤 Interview like a calm operator

Prepare a 60-second “Tell me about yourself” tied to the job description. Use STAR for examples: one tough customer issue, one time under pressure, and one time you exceeded expectations. For video calls, reference people you connected with. If asked for an application number you don’t have, politely email recruiting or careers for help.

▸ MODULE 29

Step 27 — Tighten resume and profiles

Build for the next role, not just your past. Front-load benefits and proof in the first lines. Insert keywords from the job posting naturally. For freshers, emphasize education, achievements, time management, collaboration, resilience, and enthusiasm. Quantify results—if you can’t articulate metrics, you’re invisible. Keep LinkedIn concise; use a vertical list of expertise for fast scanning.

▸ MODULE 30

Salary Estimate

Offer a practical service you can repeat: Facebook ads for local services, basic video content, e-commerce email, or SEO. Start with your network: take on extra marketing tasks at your current workplace, ask friends/family, and collect testimonials. Create regular posts answering what your prospects care about—document, don’t overproduce. A clean, simple website and two active socials are enough. Using your own name can be an advantage.

▸ MODULE 31

Salary Estimate

Follow structured paths (e.g., AI literacy or cloud fundamentals) and expect most growth from doing the job. If pursuing PM credentials, note typical prerequisites/time. For cyber, keep building explainable artifacts. For AI roles, many focus on building around existing models rather than training from scratch—solid engineering and data handling matter more than chasing tools.

▸ MODULE 32

Step 30 — ⚖️ Compliance, ethics, and scope control

Respect platform terms—use scrapers for discovery, don’t auto-apply. Don’t overload AI steps; split extraction and analysis. Some remote companies hire in specific states only—check restrictions. If you need strictly Mon–Fri, verify support schedules (some require weekends/holidays). Treat security seriously when using AI or handling resumes; use compliant platforms and least privilege.

▸ MODULE 33

Mistakes to avoid

Avoid

- Sending mass applications without the right skills or a niche focus - Relying on certs without real, explainable projects (SOC/GRC/Data) - Overloading one AI node with too many tasks; skip structured parsing - Violating job board terms with auto-apply scrapers - Not preparing “Tell me about yourself” or reading the JD closely - Overstuffing LinkedIn; recruiters skim in an F pattern - Attaching heavy portfolio files; send clean links instead - Ignoring location/state restrictions or required weekend coverage - Skipping error handling (store incomplete runs, retries, ignore where safe) - Project managers auditing their own quality management

▸ MODULE 34

Salary Estimate

$24–$30/hr

Park Aid overnight customer support associate (source-reported)

$20–$22/hr

Seresti Health enrollment specialist (inside sales) (source-reported)

$50–$60/survey

Prolific high-pay surveys, when qualified (source-reported, example-only)

$1,500–$2,000/mo

Retainer for a utilitarian AI voicemail service (source-reported, example-only)

▸ MODULE 35

Resources

RESOURCES

Zapier Careers	Remote-first openings across support, ops, and more
TryHackMe	Hands-on cyber defense labs for SOC evidence
Hack The Box	Labs; complete defensive paths with notes
Australian Signals Directorate (Essential Eight & ISM)	Guidance and frameworks for GRC in AU
ISO/IEC 27001 Information Security	International standard for ISMS controls
APRA CPS 234	Information security standard for AU finance
OAIC (Australian Privacy)	Privacy obligations and guidance
PMI (PMP/ACP)	Project management certifications and prerequisites
Mermaid Live Editor	Visualize flow diagrams from text
Microsoft Learn	Free learning paths (cloud, AI, data)
Coursera	Structured courses and certificates
NIST SP 800-63B (Passwords)	Modern guidance on memorized secrets
GitHub	Version and share your artifacts
UnitedHealth Group Careers	Example of non-phone/data-heavy roles

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THE JOBHACKI ARSENAL

What All-Access members get

All 7 JobHacki tools on one membership.

Hack your career.

AI Auto Apply

Swipe real jobs. We get each application ready; you check it and press submit.

Job Directory

Live jobs pulled straight from company hiring systems.

Resume Builder

A role-ready resume in minutes.

Resume Match

A 0-100 match score against live roles.

Readiness Simulator

Score and sharpen your interview with teach-back grading.

Playbook Directory

Step-by-step income and job playbooks.

Tool Directory

Tools, prompts, GitHub repos and GPTs, by category.

Create your free account

Get All-Access — see price and terms

See the community & what's inside

A free account opens the job hubs, the playbook library and the Tool Directory.

Learn More →

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