

# WHAT MAKES A SUCCESSFUL INTERN?

Advice & tips from some of our industry leaders on how to be an outstanding intern / future employee and what you should be focused on learning!

**"A successful and qualified intern needs to have a willingness to learn. Internships are introductions to career fields that have the capacity to teach really valuable lessons for an intern's future career path. Teaching them to be great listeners who know how to take direction and handle constructive criticism."**

- Lobeline Communications



**"Have a willingness to help participate on projects no matter how large or small with a positive attitude and the ability to learn on the go."**

- Disney+



**"Be a problem solver and have the ability to accept and learn from criticism, and of course communication."**

- LA Sparks



**"Being able to insert yourself into a conversation, and be able to read the room."**

- Cartoon Network Studios



**"Do research and learn how to best create resumes, cover letters, etc."**

- Therapy Studios



**"Practice your critical thinking and innovation to understand why things are done the way they are, and create your own unique solutions to problems or improvements to existing solutions."**

- Belly Up



**"Study how to behave in a workplace."**

- Good American GOOD AMERICAN

**"Understand time management, organization, and communication skills."**

- Warschawski



**"Be well aware of your abilities for media production and where you need to advance...awareness that you will have to adapt to working with crews of people you have not previously met, and on stories that are not 100% your design."**

- Actuality Media

**"Each show is different, but the skills I look for are light editing (adobe audition or other editing software), social media presence and use (good for interaction during the show), and any sort of radio or studio exposure... having a professional presence during interviews and on the job can help."**

- SiriusXM



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**"Learn about soft skills and how to navigate corporate culture."**

- NBC Universal

**NBCUniversal**

**"Focus on your critical thinking, time management, collaboration, initiative, and being passionate."**

- Endemol Shine North America

**EndemolShine  
NorthAmerica**

**"Learn to work in a deadline driven environment, learn to communicate needs, don't be afraid to ask questions."**

- KESQ News



**"Study how to be in a professional situation, how to thrive in it and how to thrive professionally."**

- Harper's Bazaar,  
India Today Group

**BAZAAR**



**"Treat an internship like you would a job and be punctual. Do not be shy about talking to your supervisors and picking their brains about the industry. The relationships you make at internships are the stepping stones into a career in entertainment."**

- Industria Works/Nacional Records



**"Work on your general communication skills (written and oral). You should come in with a firm understanding of what you hope to accomplish."**

- Iota Productions, Jimmy Kimmel Live Audience Department



**"Helpdesk admin skills are a major plus when hiring staff. It ensures they have the base IT and customer service skills that they will carry with them in all areas of technical work."**

- ARC Document Solutions - Technical Services



**"Social Media Marketing is HUGE within the entertainment industry. It's a requirement for our on-air talents, as well as other staff, to be well versed in social media, especially Instagram and Twitter."**

- Power 106, Morning Show (On-Air)



**"General email etiquette and organization are a great base for interns to bring into the workplace as they begin their projects and learning."**

- Synchronization Licensing, Music Sales Corporation

**"Come ready with communication and critical analysis skills."**

- Skybound Entertainment



**"Skills you should learn: social media marketing, live audio mixing, graphic design, video editing for social content."**

- Poppang Records, Music Marketing



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**"Keep up to date with the programs currently being used in the industry, especially when it comes to software and shortcuts. Being already familiar saves us a lot of time and allows you to start taking on more responsibilities. Most industry-level jobs appreciate interns who are comfortable asking questions, approaching supervisors about their skills/interests, and who are confident in making connections that will benefit them for the future."**

- Bang Zoom! Studios



**"SEO is something that not many schools are teaching, so this would be an advantage for any writing/journalism student to learn more about it."**

- KHTS Radio Station



**"Communicate to employers about your internship expectations."**

- CSU Chico Center for Healthy Communities



**"Social Media marketing and engagement is huge within the radio and tv world with its listeners and viewers."**

- Power 106/On-Air Evening Liftoff Show



**"Learn email etiquette. Learn to have a full signature on emails, to respond in a timely manner and how to compose a thoughtful email subject line."**

- JuVee Productions



**"Hone your writing skills and attention to detail."**

- Netzwerk Music Group, Publicity



**"Practice your speech performance and social media."**

- HackerX Inc.



**"Have a strong work ethic, positive attitude, and knowledge of the field you're interested in."**

- Jimmy Kimmel Live



**"Have a curiosity about learning by asking questions that show you are invested in a deeper understanding of the organization and of the job you have been assigned. Being a self starter, showing initiative and creativity during problem solving, and having empathy for others are all very important."**

- La Jolla Playhouse Education Dept.



**"Invest in your time management, organization skills, and following instructions. Also, try to identify your best method for learning and retaining information."**

- Flag Media Analytics



**"Be a self-starter. Rather than waiting for someone or something to do something, do it on your own because success won't come easy if you are waiting around to be told the next task."**

- Mandalay Sports Media & Production



**"Be able to think on your feet and trust your inputs. Meet deadlines and have strong communication skills."**

- Young Hollywood



**"Learn about different writing styles and best practices for pitching and different media types. Understand how the industry is evolving into the digital landscape."**

- 3D Public Relations & Marketing



**"Learn 3D modeling for video games, and video game programming."**

- Theia Interactive



**"I expect interns to come on board with the open minded outlook and willingness to learn in departments that they might not have found interest in before."**

- CMC Broadcasting



**"Communication skills."**

- Brutal Media



**"It's important to experience many different jobs or opportunities while being a student. Practice wearing multiple hats in a work environment."**

- Young Hollywood



**"Communication and listening skills are always so key in any job. Also, I appreciate interns asking how they can be of help."**

- Conan Casting

**"Try to understand the environment and expectations of a professional setting."**

- Live Nation, MegaCountry



**"Learn about blogging and social media tools when doing marketing and advertising. Get a feel for the tools that are being used in business because it will help you learn from the company instead of playing catch up."**

- Esselle SF



**"Learn social media management and marketing, as well as writing for digital publishing."**

- iHeartRadio Los Angeles



**"Learn communication, time management, and multitasking."**

- Windsor, Buying Office



**"Learn excel skills, communication skills, and knowledge on company culture."**

- St. John Knits - MKTG

ST. JOHN



**"Arrive with goals you'd like to accomplish over the course of the semester and ask the questions needed to build specific skills. Understanding google drive, microsoft office, and adobe suite is great."**

- Tremolo Productions

