

# Career Headlines



## Why Swearing on the Job Matters

Whether it's the printer that jams, a coworker who bugs you, or something else that pushes your button, hold your tongue if you want to keep your job.

A study by CareerBuilder shows that 81% of employers say swearing brings a worker's professionalism into question. Even more interesting, 54% of employers said that swearing makes employees appear "less intelligent."

"Employees with potty mouths are viewed as impulsive and are less likely to get promoted," said Jennifer Grasz, spokesperson for CareerBuilder.

According to Steven Raz, co-founder of Cornerstone Search Group in New Jersey, "In most cases, cursing is seen as a death wish, a one-way ticket to an exit interview."

Even though coworkers may swear, don't mistake this as permission for you to do the same thing. You don't want to be painted with the same brush.

Bad language habits are often a symptom of a larger problem, rather than being the problem itself, and employers are reluctant to take the time to discover the bigger problem.

Everyone loses their temper every now and then, so if you make a mistake and swear, apologize unless doing so draws more attention to yourself. Even if it's just a one-time thing, you can still upset people and make them uncomfortable.

**Action:** Do you swear? Will you have to watch your tongue when you go to work? If employers think people who swear are less intelligent, is swearing worth the risk of your boss questioning your intelligence? What is your opinion of swearing in the workplace?

Adapted from a *FOXbusiness* article by Kathryn Tuggle.



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