

Five ways to re-invent yourself in office

Raise the bar

Author and motivational speaker Priya Kumar feels that one, sure-shot way of re-inventing yourself is to double your targets and reassess your goals. A lot of people feel that to re-invent themselves, they must do something different. But you can be the most effective when you raise the bar on your performance. In fact, a new, raised bar will require a new way of thinking and exploring, and certainly new strategies to reach your goal. It will push you to grow and move beyond what you thought was possible. That is real time re-inventing of yourself.

Expand your network

According to Parsh Ramanathan, head (training and development) at L&T Infotech, building an internal network is important. "People in your own company know best what's going on, what the immediate changes and new vacancies are," he says. "So speak to them and try to find new opportunities for yourself within the organisation or try to make the shift from your present role into a new one with added responsibilities and skill sets."

If you work better by yourself, chances are you will find yourself stuck in a rut sooner than imagined. The way out is to expand your network by using social media as a tool. Pradeep Chopra, CEO of DigitalVidya, says you should get online, connect with professionals from your field, not just locally, but also globally, to keep abreast of the developments taking place in your sector across the world.

Ask for help

When you find that you cannot go on in your present role, seek help. Ramanathan advises speaking to a trusted friend or senior at work to get a new perspective on your situation, and bouncing ideas off him or her. In

no time at all you will find yourself enjoying your work. The 'friend' could be anyone, a senior, your immediate bosses or people in another vertical. Have an open mind and weigh the pros and cons of your present role after exchanging thoughts. Asking for help not only opens up a whole new world of solutions, but also opportunities.

Create a brand image

Building a network, both online and offline, helps create a 'brand image' for yourself. Use the same to create opportunities at work. Blog about your situation, says Chopra, or get involved with the extra-curricular activities in the office. Participate in discussions and activities; In short, make yourself acquainted with people not only from your immediate team, but also outside it.

Take a break

This may sound like a radical step, but when you cannot see yourself contributing any more to the company, it's time that you took one, says Kumar. Save on your leave and when the time comes, take a paid vacation. Not doing so can lead to burnout well before you have reached your potential. You could pursue a different field of work, says Kumar. Take up a new course, hobby, skill or take time out to study your sector better and see what changes are taking place. After doing thorough research, take a call on whether you want to go back at the same level or want to take on a different role within the organisation.

Fired of doing the same work, day in and day out? Do you feel you have reached your potential and can't give any more to your job? You have probably hit a plateau, as they say. But quitting, or anything as drastic, may not be the best solution. It's time to take a step back and figure out how to re-invent yourself at the workplace, says Moresha Benjami