



Free Resource Wednesday - Week 17



Mastering the UX Resume

From ATS Keywords to Senior Roles



10 UX Resume Mistakes That Could Hurt Your Application



Using the same resume for every job

Your experience should be relevant to the role you're applying for.



Listing responsibilities instead of contributions

Explain what you worked on and how you contributed.



Using vague bullet points

"Worked on UI design" doesn't tell recruiters much about your work.



Forgetting to link your portfolio

Make it easy for recruiters to explore your projects.



Focusing only on UI skills

Show relevant experience in research, usability, interaction design, and problem-solving.



Listing tools without demonstrating how you use them

Knowing Figma is useful, but explaining how you used it in your work provides more context.



Ignoring the job description

Make sure your relevant experience reflects the requirements of the role



Overloading your resume with unnecessary information

Prioritise information that helps employers understand your suitability.



Using complicated formatting

Keep your resume readable, consistent, and easy to navigate.



Forgetting to proofread

Typos and broken links can distract from an otherwise strong application.

10 UX Resume Keywords for ATS



User Research

For experience understanding user needs, behaviours, and pain points.



Usability Testing

For evaluating how people interact with a product or prototype.



Interaction Design

For designing flows, interactions, and interface behaviours.



Wireframing

For translating ideas and requirements into structural layouts.



Prototyping

For creating interactive representations of proposed solutions.



Information Architecture

For organising content and structuring navigation.



User-Centered Design

For designing around user needs and validating design decisions.



Accessibility

For considering inclusive experiences and accessibility requirements.



Design Systems

For working with reusable components, patterns, and design standards.



Cross-Functional Collaboration

For collaborating with product, engineering, research, and business teams.

How to use these keywords:

Don't just copy these words into your Skills section.

10 Product Designer Resume Checklist



A clear professional headline

Make your target role easy to understand.



A concise professional summary

Briefly communicate your experience, strengths, and relevant expertise.



Relevant product design experience

Highlight work that demonstrates your suitability for the role.



Problem-solving experience

Show the user or business problems you helped address.



UX research and usability testing

Include relevant experience gathering insights and evaluating solutions.



Interaction and visual design skills

Demonstrate your ability to create usable, thoughtful interfaces.



Product thinking

Show how you considered user needs, product goals, and constraints.



Cross-functional collaboration

Highlight relevant work with product managers, developers, researchers, and stakeholders.



Outcomes and impact

Include credible results where available. Never invent metrics.



A portfolio that supports your experience

Make sure your portfolio links work and your projects demonstrate the skills described in your resume.

Remember:

Your resume introduces your experience. Your portfolio helps demonstrate it. Both should tell a consistent story about the designer you are.

Senior Product Designer Resume Guide



Problem ownership

Show how you took responsibility for understanding and addressing a problem.



Strategic thinking

Explain how you connected user needs with product objectives.



End-to-end designEnd-to-end design

Highlight relevant experience from discovery and research through delivery and iteration.



Complex problem-solving

Describe challenging problems, constraints, and the reasoning behind your approach.



Product impact

Communicate credible outcomes and explain your contribution.



Data-informed decisions

Show how research, analytics, testing, or feedback influenced your design decisions.



Cross-functional leadership

Demonstrate how you worked with product managers, engineers, researchers, and business stakeholders.



Stakeholder influence

Highlight how you communicated recommendations, built alignment, or navigated competing priorities.



Design systems and scalable solutions

Show how you contributed to consistency, reuse, or improvements across a product.



Mentoring and design leadership

If relevant, include how you supported other designers, improved team practices, or raised design quality.

The difference is in how you communicate your contribution.



Your resume checklist:

Before sending your next application, ask yourself:

- ☐ Is my experience relevant to this role?
- ☐ Does my resume communicate my contributions clearly?
- ☐ Can recruiters easily find my portfolio?
- ☐ Have I checked the formatting, spelling, and links?