

My Dream Job

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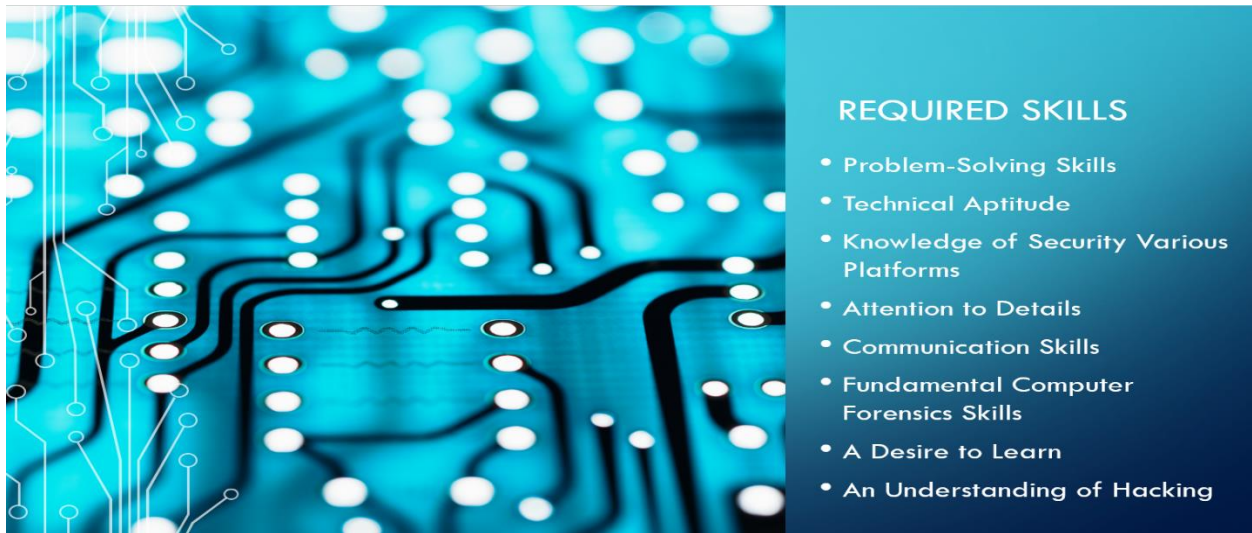
1. Introduction.

The report will look into the nature and scope of cyber security, personal overview which encompasses strengths and weaknesses, goals, self-evaluation, personal development planning and time management and organisational skills. Cyber security alternatively referred as information technology security encompasses practices and technologies designed for the protection of networks, devices and data against any attack or unauthorised access. Cyber security is paramount since sensitive information inclusive of financial data and personal information collected and stored by the government, financial and medical organisations whose exposure will have dire consequences. In addition to evaluating the various aspects of cyber security, this report highlights the various goals and personal evaluation that identifies the competencies and skills necessary for future success.

2. Personal overview.



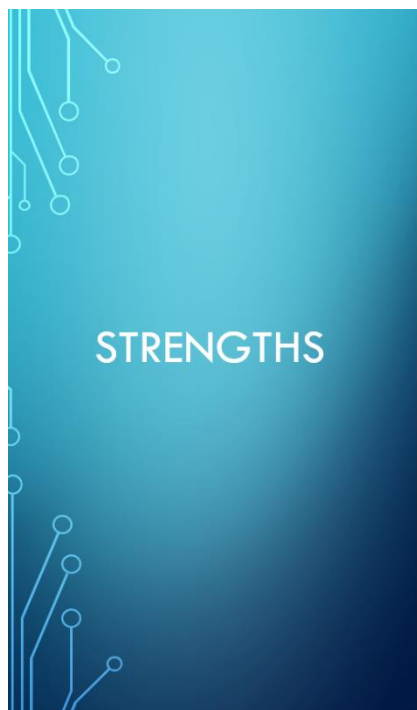
I am an undergraduate student seeking to enhance my competencies and aptitudes in order to be able to pursue my dream job of working as a cyber-security consultant. I am punctual and motivated which helps me in working under high pressure environments. However, I am still able to produce high quality work as I am not only flexible but also my competence in working with collaboratively teams. However, in order to be fully competent, it is important that I further enhance my existing skills as well as develop new skills.



2.1 Strengths.

I have computer skills essential for cyber security job that I have gained through my schooling. Cyber security depends on computer skills and knowledge as its backbone as such my vast knowledge of computers will be essential in the execution of my duties and responsibilities.

The basic programming knowledge I possess will come in handy in my line of duty. Cyber attackers employ



Computer Skills

Basic Programming Knowledge

Mathematics Skills

Communication Skills

Problem-Solving Skills

Quick Learner

various tactics with time such as social engineering and malware in their attacks thus the programming

knowledge will equip me in curbing the attacks (Dudjak et al, 2017, May). Understanding of the common programming languages like Java, C/C++, and both assembling and disassembling languages is mandatory for cyber security personnel, all which I covered in programming (Dudjak et al, 2017, May).

My excellent communication skills better position me as a cyber-security personnel in explaining the technical aspects of security often to people with limited or zero technical background for instance C-suite executives. Flawless presentations and communications skills aid in effective communication with management and customers (Fleming & Daw, 2017). My ability and understanding of the use of active listening skills especially with customers will enable me deliver excellent services to the customers. My eloquence in both written and verbal complex concepts will go a long way in promoting customer satisfaction consequently leading to loyalty.

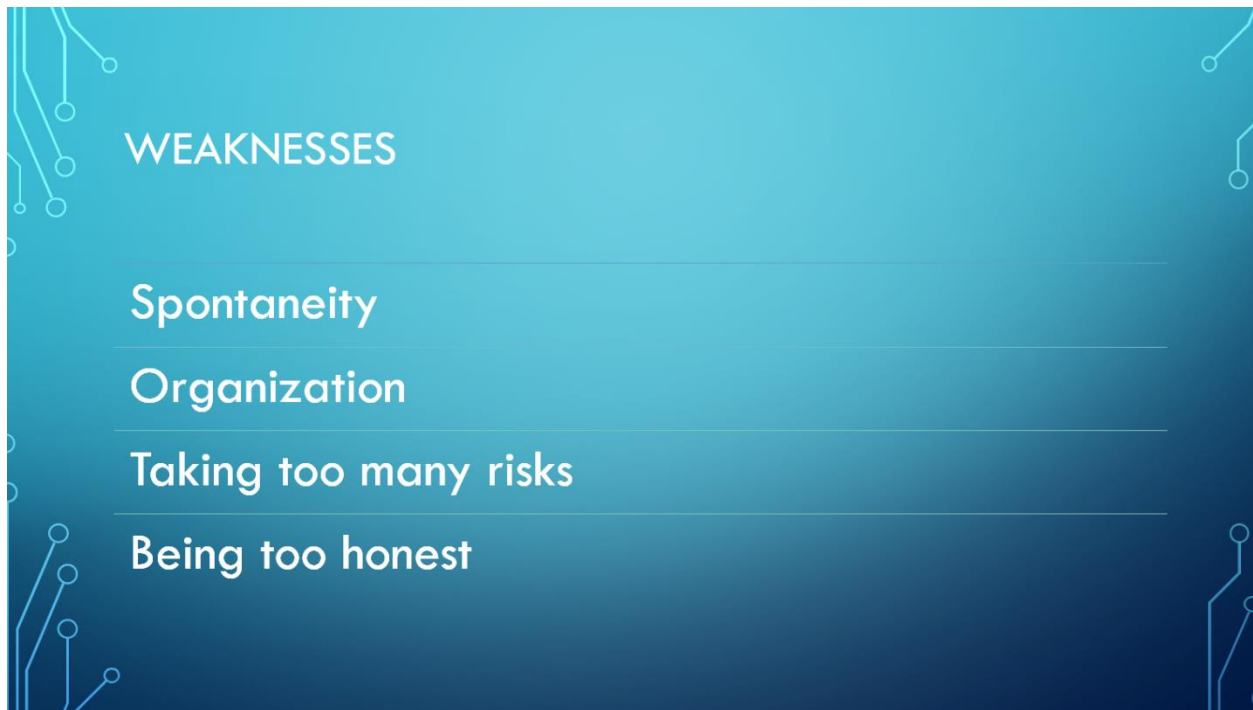
I possess mathematical skills which come in handy in cyber security. Mathematical skills apply in cryptography which is widely used on the internet to secure data against eavesdropping (Fleming & Daw, 2017). Mathematical skills have enabled me explore the complex knowledge on cybersecurity and how to counter attack a number of challenges. Mathematical skills also help in decrypting and encrypting data.

My problem-solving skills will be an asset to the cyber security department. My ability to think on my feet and willingness to implement the acquired knowledge will enable me provide real time solutions to problems in my line of duty.

I am a quicker learner an aspect essential in the cyber security sector. As hackers continue becoming more sophisticated each day quick study of their tactics and ability to grasp concepts quicker can be a deal breaker in the security sector.

2.2 Weaknesses.

I am too honest and go about telling openly about everything in development in my jurisdiction section in a cybersecurity setup. This is a weakness as cybersecurity entails some degree of dishonesty whereby not every detail is not a threat. Being too honesty can create unnecessary tension within an institution.



I tend to take too many risks as a person. This is a weakness as one cannot tell the end result of a risk. Taking a risk can earn a positive or a negative result. Taking too many risks comes with many uncertainties. In the cyber security sector one doesn't have the luxury of taking unnecessary risks, as it can have dire consequences inclusive of crippling of an organisation or collapsing of an economy of a region (Dudjak et al, 2017, May).

Spontaneity is my other weakness whereby I prefer performing tasks on my own. This is as a result of self believe that I can do everything on my own. This hinders teamwork and coordination in any organisation. This again does not invite out sourcing. As such I tend to have a backlog if the responsibilities assigned to me are many.

I value organisation in my cyber security career this is whereby order of occurrence and basic procedure is followed. The essence of organisation in cyber security is to take on tasks in order (Bar-On et al, 2017). This is a weakness whereby some tasks come by as emergency matters.

3. Goals.

3.1 Career goals.

Increase professional knowledge; this is achievable through taking collage classes or employer workshops which at the end earns a certification. This will improve my position and my general image in the cyber security firm

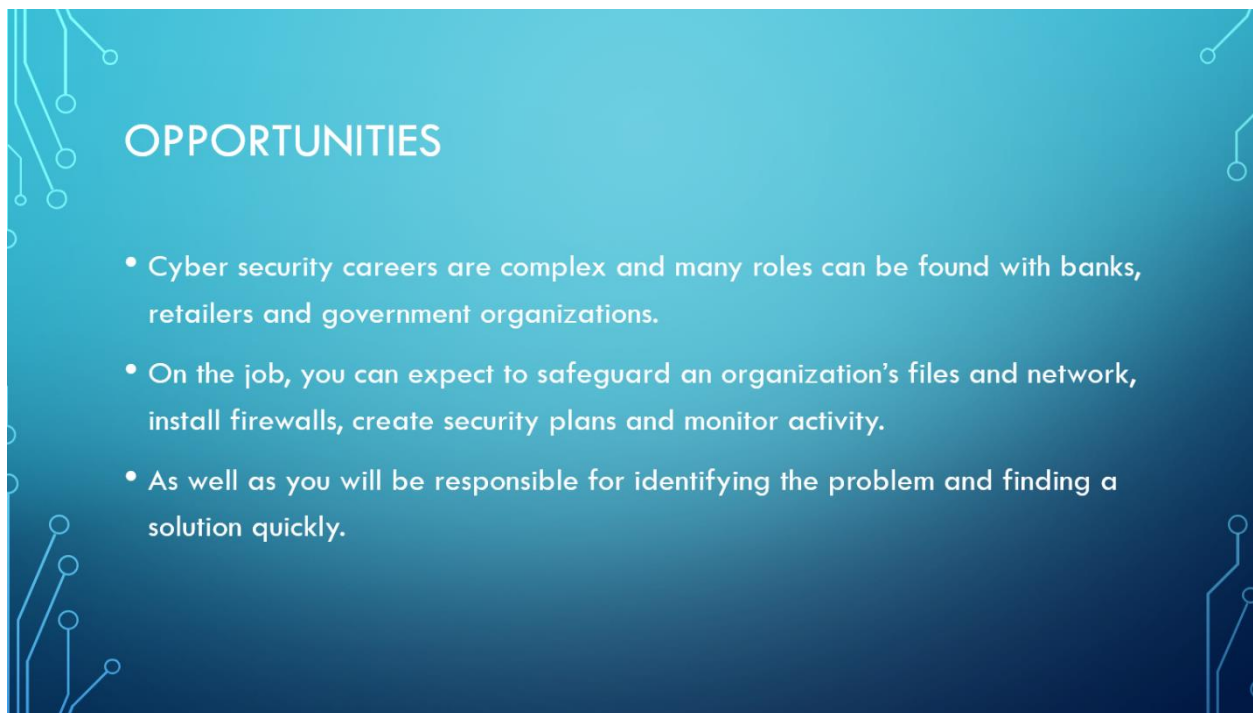
Increase earning; increase in career knowledge means more tasks and reliability which deserves an increase in pay. I will not only focus on developing the cybersecurity firm but equally I will strive to elevate my financial status through asking for better pay.

Invite new challenges; as some cyber-security personnel I will be open to other career challenges, this will improve my exposure and different firm's experiences (Dudjak et al, 2017, May). This is also essential in learning of different routines and culture.

Take a leadership role; after amassing experience in cyber security I would go in for a leadership role and try my leadership skills. This will help me learn on how to run an institution and keep standards

Set up my own firm; after passing through the levels in a firm set up after trying every level I will aspire to go for the top slot, a founder of a cyber-security firm. In this phase I will strive to do better and improve wherever I feel something should be done differently.

3.2 Opportunities



Cyber security careers are broad and complex in nature as such there are numerous roles that can be played by cyber security personnel within banks, retailers and government organisations. The cyber security job entails; safeguarding of organisational files and networks, firewalls installation, security plans creation and

monitoring of all the online activities. Identification of problems and formulation of possible timely solutions is also the mandate of a cyber-security personnel.

3.3 Threats

Phishing threatens cyber security whereby carefully targeted digital messages are transmitted so as to trick into clicking links that can install malware or expose sensitive data. Phishing has advanced into more sophisticated heights hence tricking people more. Awareness of the malpractice in form of email phishing is now known to most organisations which has resulted to upping of the ante. For example using machine learning to much more quickly craft and distribute convincing fake messages in the hopes that recipients will unwittingly compromise their organisation's networks and systems (Cazan et al, 2016). These attacks enable hackers to steal user logins, credit credentials and other personal financial information as well as gain access to private databases.

Ransom ware is another cybersecurity threat that is believed to cost victims billions of dollars every year. This has come about as hackers have deployed technologies that enable them to literally kidnap individuals or organisation's databases and hold all the information for ransom. The rise of crypto currencies like bitcoin is credited with helping to fuel ransom ware attacks by allowing payment of ransom anonymously.

Crypto currency movement also affects cybersecurity. For example crypto jacking is a trend that involves cyber criminals hijacking third-party home or work computers to 'mine' for crypto currency (Cazan et al, 2016). Hackers need immense amounts of computer processing power. Hackers make money by secretly piggybacking on someone else's systems.

Cyber-physical attacks is another cybersecurity threatening factor. The same technology that enables modernisation and computerised critical infrastructure also poses a risk. This is witnessed in the ongoing threat hacks targeting electrical grids, transport systems and water treatment facilities represent a major vulnerability going forward (Cazan et al, 2016).

4. Self-evaluation

4.1 Problem solving skills

I possess problem solving skills which places me at a vantage position to organize and coordinate assessments on technical vulnerabilities which include systems and network vulnerability assessments, penetration testing, web application assessments, social engineering assessments, physical security assessments, wireless security assessments and implementing secure infrastructure solutions (Bar-On et al, 2017). This enables me to recommend and give technical direction on managing security incidents also ensure the integrity of the resulting process and approach.

4.2 Managerial skills

Technical aptitudes in cyber security is a necessity. With these skills I understand the architecture, administration, and management of various operating systems, networking and virtualisation software. This entails also a know-how on software development and software analytic skills (Clarke et al, 2016). I also understand the common programming languages, including java, C/C++, disassemblers, assembly language and scripting language for instance PHP, Python, Perl, or shell (Bar-On et al, 2017). They are essential in identification of the security controls for a particular organisation and weaknesses in their databases and applications deployment.

4.3 Effective communication skills

I possess effective communication skills that come in handy in achieving coordination. In cybersecurity communication is very essential as every detail is taken into account, that's to decipher every intended message. This skill is essential in getting things going that's in giving and receiving information to act upon (Schippers et al, 2020).

Paying attention to Evert detail is my other skill that is so helpful across the cybersecurity field. This is whereby in the cybersecurity firms' lesser details are as essential as every detail. It's through attention that we get to trace every threat and even monitor malware patterns.

5. Personal development planning

5.1 Short-term goals.

Gaining a new skill is one of my short-term goals. Modern organisations are looking for potential employees with a variety of talents and abilities. The new skill I intend to gain falls under cyber security to give a competitive advantage in consideration for a job and will come in handy for promotions and salary increment (Reid, 2017).

Boosting of my networking abilities which involves development of both social and professional contacts with persons I can exchange insights and information. Networking enables linking of influencers and opportunities for career advancement.

Experience gaining is another short term goal. After successful completion of studies and subsequent graduation, getting a chance to implement the knowledge and skills acquired while gathering experience in the process ids the best way to begin my career.

Development of good habits aimed at improving my productivity and output is my other short term goal. Avoidance of undesired characteristics and practices will enable me achieve this goal.

5.2 Mid-term goals.

I seek to get a master's degree that will enhance my prospects of becoming part of an organisations senior management. This will be vital in enhancing my chances of meeting my long-term career objectives of owning a business company (Reid, 2017). Furthermore, with a goal of retiring at the age of 55 years, a masters accomplishing this objective timely will not only enhance my prospects of retiring early from a senior management position but also provide significant amount of time to run my own organisation in a hands on approach.

5.3 Long-term goals.

My core long term objective is to be able to own and manage my own company. Being an entrepreneur is one of the things that I always strive to accomplish as it will not be my self-actualisation point in my career but also provide me with an opportunity to deliver value to the wider society.

Becoming an expert in cyber security is one of my long-term goals. As an expert having gained sufficient knowledge and spending lengthy periods of time in a particular field will equip me better in understanding situations.

Reaching a leadership position as I have a strong belief that I was born a leader. So as to be an outstanding leader having a general knowledge of every aspect in my industry is pivotal (Hill et al, 2019). So as to rise in the ranks it will be paramount for me to work harder than everyone else, quick adaptation to changes, and possession of outstanding communication skills and acceptance of existence of individuals with vast knowledge on a particular aspect within the organisation.

Winning a prestigious award in cyber security such as the Academy Awards or the Nobel-prize while others are industry- specific for instance the Stevie Awards. The only way to achieve this particular is by striving to be the best in my sector (Hill et al, 2019).

5.4 Action plan

In order to accomplish my goals, I am going to enrol into Knowledge Transfer Partnerships as well as leverage student placement programs in ensuring that I am able to gain the best experiences and enhance my competencies. By using KTPs, I will be able to work with the best talents in the cyber security industry thus gaining valuable knowledge and experience from the experienced industry professionals.

Student placement programs will enable me to gain vital experience working in a cyber-security organisation thus preparing me for my future career.

Personal development plan.

My Goals		
Short term	Mid term	Long term
Complete my undergraduate course. Secure an opportunity for progression on demonstration of ability	Undertake and complete an MBA Develop and secure a senior position at a cyber-security organisation	Head my own cyber security consultancy organisation
Current competencies, experience, knowledge and skills		
Analytical skills, project management skills, systems and processes management and team management.		
Development needs		
Business management skills, enhancing time management skills, communication and it competencies.		
Action plan		
In order to accomplish my goals, I am going enrol into Knowledge Transfer Partnerships as well as leverage student placement programs in ensuring that I am able to gain the best experiences and enhance my competencies. By using KTPs, I will be able to work with the best talents in the cyber security industry thus gaining valuable knowledge and experience from the experienced industry professionals. Student placement programs will enable me to gain vital experience working in a cyber-security organisation thus preparing me for my future career.		

Source :(author)

6.0 Data backup strategies.

A back up strategy is the best defence against any data loss or failure. Data backup plan for any organisation is vital in safeguarding important data in case of a disaster. There are various methods different organisations back their data.

Transferring of all the useful information from the CPU to an external hard disk drive is one way of backing up data. External hard drives come in different sizes in terms of capacity as such an organisation can select the size depending on the amount of data they wish to back up.

Recovery disks aid in creation of back up for all the programs used in my computer.

7.0 Time management and organisational skills.

Time management and organisational skills are some of the core employability skills necessary in succeeding in the contemporary employment world. Time management essentially means working effectively and efficiently. As such, most of the modern employers look for these attributes. This is for the reason that employees who are able to efficiently manage time are more effective in terms of enhancing the organisation's productivity thus more revenues for the company.

Prioritising. Effective time management requires that one analyses their workload, assign priorities and focus on the more productive undertaking (Kaneko et al, 2018, October). Prioritising is one of the effective approaches to time management. By prioritising work, one can be able to complete the most urgent and important work first and timely. When assigning priority, it is imperative that one considers the amount of time it will take to complete a task as well as the urgency, importance and implications of failing to complete the task on time.

Work scheduling is also an important aspect of effective time management. This is because through work scheduling, one is able to assign time periods for the commencing and completion of tasks (Clarke et al, 2016). When applied with effective task and workload management approaches, job scheduling not only enhances the timely completion of important work but also helps in ensuring quality work is done (Hill et al, 2019).

To maximise on the vast benefits of effective time management. It is important that one possess good organisational skills. This is because being organised will essentially enable one to quickly find things with ease (Kaneko et al, 2018, October). As such, having a good time management plan that breaks down large goals into easily achievable goals that are smaller in terms of the magnitudes of tasks involved.

By adopting the best filing and storage approaches, it is easier to locate the various things that one might need in the course of undertaking his work. As such, this will enhance the ability to save time and ensure that all work is effectively, efficiently and timely completed before deadlines.

8.0 Conclusion

Employability and academic skills are vital to the individual success both in terms of career and self-accomplishment. As such it is vital that one possess the best skills in order to fulfil their personal development, academic or career goals based on this report, it is evident that skills such as communication, goal setting, time management and organisation skills are key to success. Self-evaluation and reflection skills have proven to be key in not only recognising one's weaknesses as well as strengths but also the opportunities that one can derive from their competencies in ensuring they are successful in life. As such,

this report has provided an in-depth evaluation of personal goals, and the various skills necessary for one to prosper academically as well as in their future careers.

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