

THE MOST
POWERFUL
**10 MIND
HACKS TO
GROW YOUR
CAREER**
IN THE
NETHERLANDS

ABROADEXPERIENCE
International Recruitment



Why having the right mindset when applying on the Dutch Market is essential:

1. **Turn your Success Switch On:** Get out of your own way and stop talking yourself down. We all get caught in self-sabotaging thoughts and actions sometimes, especially when we are facing challenging situations, such as finding a new job in a new home country. But it's your own choice to take action and to believe in yourself: You CAN find a suitable job in the Netherlands. You CAN deal with challenging job interviews. You CAN write a powerful CV and cover letter. Imagining success instead of failure is the first big step to your journey of growth. Positive affirmations and positive self-talk can really make a difference.
2. **Stop making excuses for yourself:** Thinking of excuses, such as a lack of time to write a good CV, blaming your lack of success on the Dutch market on external factors, such as economic reasons or saying to yourself that it "there are just not the right job opportunities out there" will only hold you back from making next steps. Take action, no matter how little the first steps are.
3. **Be BOLD:** You are unique and you bring your own individual sets of skills and knowledge to the table when you apply on the Dutch market. Dare to stand out and to present yourself. In the Dutch culture it is seen as very positive when you know what you want and if you confidently show what you can offer to the employer. Don't hesitate to show people that you are a go-getter and that you know what it takes to be the right person for the job.
4. **Stop comparing yourself and your success to others:** Comparison is the thief of joy and only leads to pressure. Do you know somebody who also recently moved to the Netherlands and has already found his/her dream job? Don't compare yourself to this person and instead focus your energy on your own journey. Just because that person has found a job quicker than you it does not mean that you are going to be any less successful in the Netherlands. You may have taken the time during your job search so far to improve your Dutch, to integrate in society by joining a sports club or another activity group. Being pro-active during your job search will give you a big boost!
5. **Put the past behind you:** If you have already been applying on the Dutch market and have gone to interviews, you may have been through the experience that another person was offered the job. Instead of going through each interview question again and breaking your head about why the employer did not pick you, try to focus on the future. We can learn something

from every interview, even if we do not end up getting the job. While it is of course important to improve your interview skills after each interview, it is crucial to leave the frustration behind and to walk into the upcoming interview with a positive and open mindset. So, leave behind any onholding grudges and remember what did go well in the past interviews. It's normal to go through several interviews when you apply on the Dutch market, so with a bit of patience and time you'll find an employer that you have a fantastic click with and that will make you feel like home.

6. **Have a clear WHY:** Before clicking the send button for applications, reflect on your personal WHY: Why are you applying to a certain industry, WHY are you looking for a certain type of role, WHY do you think the company you are applying for is a place where you see yourself
7. **Use your imagination:** Where do you see yourself in the upcoming years? This is not only a popular question during interviews in the Netherlands but also a question that you should reflect on when building your career here. Always keep your end goal in mind when you apply to jobs and then think of what the necessary steps are to help you get there.
8. **Stop worrying:** You do not have to speak Dutch when applying to jobs on the Dutch Market. While it does make your applications easier, there are a large number of international companies that have one of their headquarters in the Netherlands. Their office language is usually English and they often have job opportunities available that do not require you to speak Dutch
9. **Be mindful:** Live in the present and see what steps you can take TODAY to get closer to your dream job. Worrying about the past or the future will only make you feel stuck and pressured.
10. **Stop being outcome-dependent: Embrace the process of applying on the Dutch market in every step you take.** Take it one step at a time and be nice to yourself in the process. While there might be a lot at stake for you, such as taking care of a family, being the main bread winner or feeling like you need to prove to yourself that migrating to the Netherlands was a no-regret experience, it is crucial to remind yourself how far you have come and that you are doing a fantastic job in building up your life, one step at a time. There is the right opportunity out there for you, so enjoy the journey and learn along the way.