

# HOW TO CRAFT A WINNING CV THE HR WAY

Arshia Hussain

HR Professional





#### **The Central Question:**

## Your CV must answer: "WHY SHOULD WE HIRE YOU?"

## **The Core Definition**

- A personal marketing tool (not a job list).
- Designed to get you the interview.
- Central Question: What must it answer?

## The 3 Pillars:

RELEVANCE



# What Is an ATS & Why It Matters

#### **Defination:**

**ATS (Applicant Tracking System)** is a software that filters CVs before they reach a human recruiter.

#### **Key Insight:**

If your CV is not ATS-friendly, it may never reach the HR desk.

#### What the ATS Scans For:

- Keywords: Exact matches to the job description (JD).
- Simple Formatting: No complex graphics, tables, or text boxes.
- Standard Titles: Section names like "Experience," "Skills,"
   "Education."



# YOUR ATS ROADMAP

## The CV Sections:

• Header: Full name, contact info, LinkedIn URL (No photos)

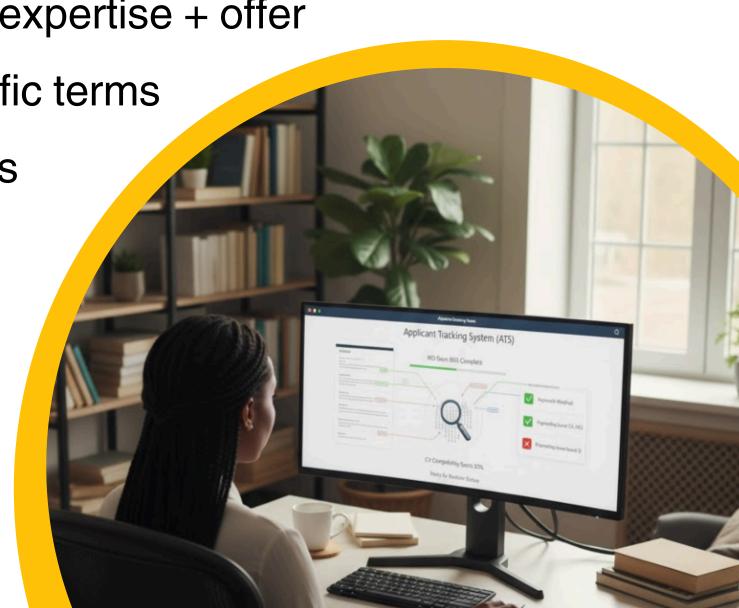
• Professional Summary: 3–4 lines summarizing your expertise + offer

• Core Skills / Keywords: Use industry-relevant, specific terms

• Experience: Use bullet points + measurable outcomes

Academics: Education & Certifications

• Achievements / Projects / Volunteer Work





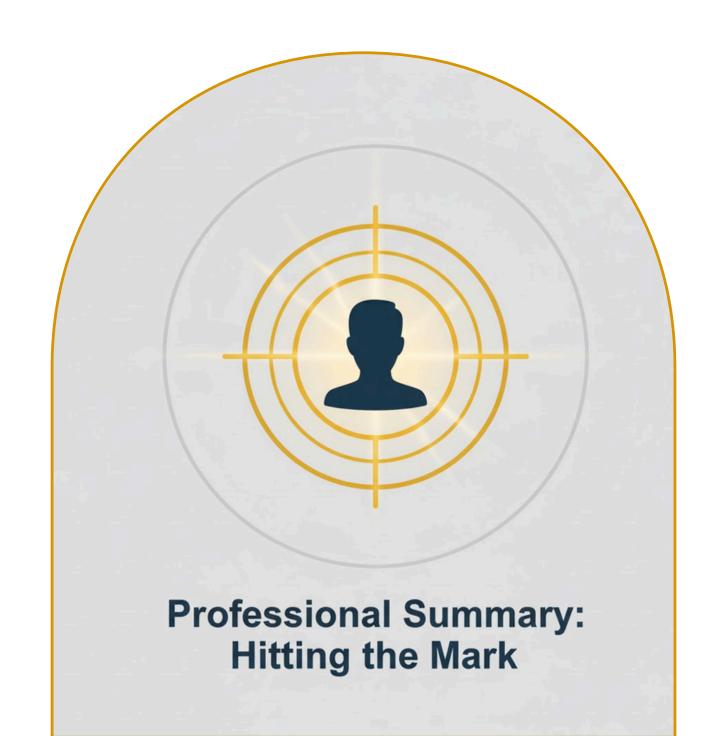
# THE POWERFUL PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

## **The Contrast**

#### **Avoid** Use

"Looking for an opportunity to grow in a reputed organization."

"HR Professional with 3+ years of experience in employee engagement and HR operations, skilled in grievance handling, policy execution, and HR automation."





# Keywords -The Secret to Passing ATS

# **The Extraction Technique:**

- **Step 1:** Extract 5–10 main keywords from the job description (JD).
- Example: For an HR Executive job, keywords include "HR operations," "onboarding," "payroll," and "performance reviews".

# Where to Use Them?

Visually emphasize the three key sections where these keywords must appear for the ATS to register them.

#### **Naturally Include Keywords in:**

- Your Professional Summary
- Your Core Skills list
- Your Experience section



# The Impact Formula



# **Examples:**

- Implemented employee engagement initiatives that increased retention by 15%."
- V "Processed payroll for 120+ employees using any HRMS with 100% accuracy."



# Common CV **Mistakes** (From an HR's Eye)

# The Key Mistakes



Using fancy templates that break ATS formatting.



Overcrowding the CV with unnecessary details.



Writing long paragraphs (keep bullet points short & crisp).



Using unprofessional email addresses (e.g., 'cutesyname@...')



Missing numbers or achievements (no quantified impact).





# **The Must-Do Checklist:**



Use simple fonts like Calibri, Arial, or Lato.



No graphics, tables, or text boxes (these break ATS).



Use bullet points (• or −).



Stick to simple black and white.



Save as .docx and .pdf (for compatibility).





# BONUS TIP: **CUSTOMIZE** FOR EVERY ROLE



"A single generic CV can't fit all roles." Tailor your CV for every job!

# **How to Tailor:**

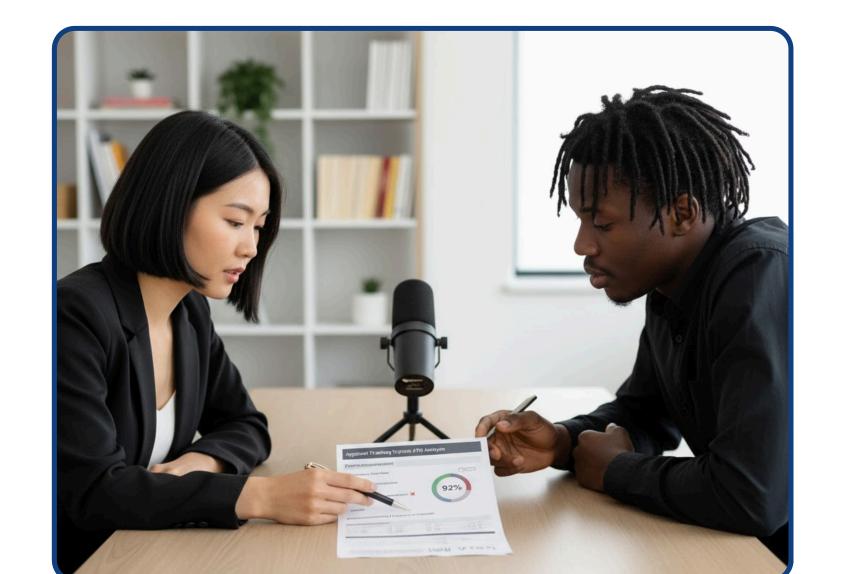
- Update your summary to match the specific job role.
- Reorder skills by relevance to the job description (JD).
- W Highlight experience that connects directly to the JD.





# LIVE CV REVIEW: PUTTING IT TO THE TEST

"You'll now get a chance to share your CV live for feedback — we'll review layout, content, and ATS compliance together."



#### **Focus Areas:**

- ATS Compliance: Simple formatting and proper section titles.
- Quantified-Impact: Moving from tasks to achievements.
- **Keyword Relevance:** Matching the summary and skills to the job description.



# YOUR FINAL TAKEAWAYS

# **The Core Principles**

- Keep it simple, relevant, and measurable.
- Use keywords strategically.
- V Tell your professional story confidently.
- Always think from the HR and system's perspective.

: Follow Mustaqbil Bridge for upcoming chapters.

# SCAN TO CONNECT







