Are Diamonds Really Rare?

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When you walk into a jewelry store and see all the diamonds in all of the various settings that are for sale, it is difficult to realize that diamonds are indeed rare. Most people don’t even stop to consider how that diamond came to be sitting in that jeweler’s case! There is quite a bit of work that is done before a diamond is ready to sell to the general public.

For every one million diamonds that are mined, only one will be found that is a quality one caret diamond. In order to find a two caret diamond, about five million diamonds must be mined. More than two hundred tons of ore must be mined to find one small diamond, and even then, more than 80% of the diamonds that are mined are only good for industrial use, such as diamond drill bits.

So, the next time you visit your local jewelry store, ask to see the one carat diamonds. You should look at this diamond with new appreciation – knowing that it truly is one in a million!

How to Properly Quit Your Job

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Are you currently unsatisfied with your job? If you are, you may be interested in exploring your other options. To do so, many individuals make the decision to turn in their resignation or to quit. If you are interested in quitting your job you will want to continue reading on. A few tips on how to properly terminate your current position are outlined below.

The best thing that you can do when looking to quit your job, involves giving your employer as much notice as possible. Many employers expect to receive at least two weeks worth of notice from those who are interested in seeking employment elsewhere. If at all possible you may want to consider giving more than two weeks notice. Unless you have a new job lined up, you may want to offer to stay until a replacement is found or until you are able to secure a new job.

When turning in your resignation you will want to do so in a formal matter. At all costs you will want to avoid quitting over the phone or in an email. You will want to type up a proper notice on your computer and submit a printout to your employer in-person. In your resignation letter be sure to thank your employer for giving you the opportunity to work with them, and so forth.

You will want to be sure to not “burn any bridges,” when quitting your current job. This is extremely important as you need to remember that your actions have consequences, possibly for years to come. Make sure that you are pleasant at all times. You will want deal with your bosses, coworkers, and anyone else that you may come into contact with in a happy pleasant matter. You never know when you may come back into contact with them and this is important to take into consideration when packing up your workplace belongings.

In keeping with packing up your workplace belongings you will want to ensure that you return all important documents or any other pieces of company property that you may have in your possession. Even if you are not asked, you will want to return all items that you didn’t personally purchase yourself. In addition to preventing any misunderstandings, in terms of theft, you may also create a good, long lasting impression of yourself.

In all honesty, the best thing that you can do when looking to resign from your current job, is to use your best judgment.

For instance, you will not want to search and apply for new jobs and list your current job on your resume as a reference, especially if you have yet to officially submit your resignation. You will also, as previously stated, want to try and avoid quitting your job on impulse unless a serious situation arises, such as one that may put you in danger.

In keeping with using your best judgment you may want to put yourself in the place of your employer or your boss. What would you like to hear from yourself? This simple question will help to ensure that you submit your resignation in a matter that is deemed appropriate. You will want to ensure that you are able to get a good reference from your current employer for years to come.

Breaking into the Working World of Teaching

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In every college in the country there are ambitious and starry-eyed youngsters who are preparing for a career in teaching. At some point that army of graduates will hit the streets to find jobs in the field of teaching. What is not often taught in colleges are the real world skills of how to actually find a good teaching job right out of school. While there is always a need for good teachers the new graduate should develop some skills in finding the kind of teaching job they have always dreamed of. Even from that first job their career in teaching gets off on the right foot.

There is a lot you can do even before graduation to get your job search moving and to make yourself desirable as a teacher. When school administrators get flooded with applications from

newly graduated teachers you will stand out as the one they want to call for an interview. One thing you can do at any time during you academic career is to intern as a teaching assistant and volunteer to teach in underprivileged schools.

You can teach just a few hours a day and work it around your academic work. By taking on the working world of teaching even before you have your degree, you will be able to present yourself to employers post graduation as someone who has real world experience in the classroom and “knows the ropes” of getting through an academic year with real students. That is tremendously valuable to a school administrator with a spot to fill because it reduces the concern that a new graduate who has never faced a classroom full of restless children might wash out when the reality of what teaching is really like.

Another way to get a jump start on the market before students flood the schools for jobs is to start your search early in your last semester of school. Schools know by February or March if they will have jobs to fill for the next academic year. So if you begin your search for a teaching position in March or April, you can often land an interview or even secure a position for the fall long before many of your contemporaries in school begin their hunt for their first teaching job.

Becoming proactive like this always gives you the advantage in finding the job you really want rather than just “any job” in the teaching profession. Spend some time narrowing down exactly what kind of teaching position you want and at what level you feel your personality and teaching style will benefit students the most. You may do much better with young children than with teenagers or you may wish to focus on high school students because they are more intellectually equipped to grasp the subject matter with you. By knowing well in advance where you want to teach, you can target those kinds of positions in your job search and improve your chances of finding that perfect teaching job.

You should make the phrase “leave no stone unturned” your motto for hunting up the teaching jobs that are open in your community. First of all, be very proactive in your search. Just because you are graduating, even with honors, with your teaching degree that doesn’t mean the schools will seek you with jobs. Take the search to them before someone else does, in doing so it will be you that gets the premium teaching positions rather than have to take “what’s left” after the good teaching positions are snatched up by more aggressive graduates.

There are lots of ways you can flush out those teaching jobs. Check the HR or employment offices at the schools you would like to be a part of and keep an eye on their employment bullion boards. Use the internet wisely, watch the newspaper and even get in touch with placement agencies who are known for placing new teachers.

But above all, network, network, network. Use every contact you have and forge new relationships to get the inside scoop on jobs before they even become public. Networking is the number one best way to find great teaching positions so you should use it extensively to find a position to get your teaching career off on a great start toward a great future of success in the field of teaching.

Benefits of Branding

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Your business needs to create a positive image in the minds of consumers. Contrary to what most people believe, branding isn’t just a logo. Your businesses purpose, focus, and image all combine to create your brand. Why should you make this

effort? Here are a few benefits…

Be remembered. It’s hard to remember a company with a generic name. You may not be able to distinguish their purpose and business focus. And why would you call a company if you couldn’t tell what they did? Branding your business ensures consumers will know what you’re about.

Gain customer loyalty. People build close bonds with brand identities. Consumers want quality products they can trust. So, your business should have an identity that your customers can cling to. If your company delivers great products and services and has a great brand identity, people will remember you. In addition, they will often refer you to friends and family.

Become well known. You want the people who have not done business with you to still know who you are and what you do. If they see your ads on billboards, hear them on radio, see them on television, or any other media, they will know your brand identity. And when the time comes that they need your product or service, your company will be the first to come to mind.

Consumers pay for image. We are a very brand aware society. People commonly associate brand names with quality and may only buy certain brands for that reason. If people only want one brand of a particular product, they are willing to pay a higher price. Having a great brand will make your company have a superior image and cause consumers forget about the competition.

Getting the Best Deal on Airfare

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There is no doubt that airfare is one of the biggest expenses of any vacation. Airfare costs can easily represent at least half of the total cost of a vacation and if you do not get the best possible deal on airfare it's easy to go way over budget. There are some important strategies for getting the best deal on airfares and this article discusses some of our favorites.

One of the things I've learned over the years is that it's almost always less expensive to fly out of the larger airports than the smaller regional ones. While this is not always the case and it is not true of every small airport, most larger airports have far more airlines competing for passengers. As we know, more competition generally equals lower prices for passengers.

Many of the larger airports are also home to the low cost carriers that have been such a phenomenon in the industry. While Southwest, Jet Blue and some of the other low cost carriers serve smaller airports, many are left out. The great thing about the incursion of these low cost carriers is they drive down the prices of the major airlines as well. So, even if you don't like the open seating, peanuts only policy of a low cost carrier like Southwest, chances are you can still score a good deal at an airport they serve, even on one of the other carriers.

Of course, the problem with flying out of major airports is getting there. Many people are in the same situation I am. That is, they have a small regional airport nearby with a couple of major airports a few hours drive away. What I do every time I need to fly is compare the cost of flying out of my close regional airport to the price I can get if I fly out

of a major city. While I have been able to score some excellent deals from my regional airport, in most cases the difference in fare has been at least $200.

I then must weigh the costs of that cheaper ticket against the convenience of local flying. Usually it makes sense to head to the large airport, particularly if I am buying more than one ticket. At a $200 price differential, it is easy to see how much money can be saved for a family traveling together.

One great trick that too few people take advantage of is booking an airport hotel for the night before your flight. This is especially valuable for those early morning flights and saves you having to get up in the middle of the night and hit the highway. Instead, head down the night before and get a good night’s sleep then take the airport’s shuttle right to the airport door.

The extra added bonus of this approach is that in most cases these airport hotels allow their guests to leave their cars at the hotel for the duration of the vacation. In many cases this service is free with the hotel stay, and even in cases where there is a few involved it is usually much lower than comparable parking at the airport. So instead of paying $10, $15 or even $20 a day to park at the airport, you have a safe, well lighted place for your car during the trip plus a comfortable place to spend the night. I honestly don’t know why more people don’t take advantage of this great way to save big bucks on both airfare and parking costs.

How Do You Know if Adoption

is Right for You?

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Are you considering having children? If so, you may want to think about adoption. Adoptions is where you accept a child that isn’t biologically yours but then make it your own. You will find that there are no limitations to your legal rights after the process is gone through. The time period of an adoption will verify by state, but then you will find that the child will be yours for the rest of your life.

If you have been trying to have children but are not able to, you might be trying to figure out if adoption is for you. Adoption is hard, but you will want to ask everyone that you know (family, friends, loved ones, clergy) about how they feel about adoption. This is never something that you should decide to do completely on your own, because it is a lifetime commitment. If you are thinking about becoming a single parent, you will want to talk to others so that you can make sure that adoption is right for you.

Remember that you are going to be taking a child that someone else has created and making that child your own. You will want to make sure that you are okay with the fact that someone else had the child and then gave the child up. If you are okay with that, then you may want to think about adoption. If you don’t care where a child came from and if all you want to do is give a child a good home, you should consider becoming an adoptive parent. However, also remember that a child requires time and money. You will find that the process of adoption is very expensive and time consuming.

You are going to find things about your adoptive child that may end up being a mystery. You will find that if you are given a bit of family history from the adoption agency, then you will be able to understand your new child and you will know all of the circumstances the child was born in. You will

know why the parents gave the child up. You will find that sometimes all the information that you want is not available to you, this is where you need to decide if you can live your life like that. If you can live with or without the background information, you should think about adopting a child.