



## Congratulations!

Students Certified in August...

- Glynn Davis
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# LTS Lowdown

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## Food For Thought

*To Help You Land a Job in IT*

### How to Burn a DVD with Server 2008 R2

#1 Log on with the LocalSystem\Administrator account

The next two steps are not recommended by Microsoft because both greatly reduce security on your server system.

#2 Kill the Explorer.exe process and then relaunch Explorer fully elevated. This has the side effect of making \*every\* process you launch also fully elevated, including any malware or viruses that you happen to come across in IE when clicking around the internet. You would have to do this after each reboot so this is the lesser of the two evils.

#3 The second is to turn off UAC. This is the greater of the two evils because it persists across reboots.

The reason it is so difficult to burn a DVD is because there is a Denial of Service hazard in the SCSI Passthrough that will bring a server to its knees, making it completely unavailable.

Over the years, and more so lately with people looking for jobs, I get asked, "What does it take to get a job in IT?" In the good old days of the late 90's you could get a well-paying job if you knew a few basic terms like RAM, processor, registry, HTML, TCP/IP. Like everything... things change. As an industry, we're maturing.

Recently I attended a presentation by a founder of a local successful IT business. He outlined what he considered to be the most important skills to land a good-paying job in IT. I was mildly surprised, but after some thought, I agree with his list.

#### 1. Basic Hygiene

It's difficult to not be distracted by bad breath, body odor, messed up hair. Wouldn't it be great if everyone came to work as though they were there for an interview? Seldom do people realize, every day is an interview day. Your actions, attitude, and appearance affect how your co-workers choose to interact with you.

#### 2. Accountability

Good bad or indifferent, accountability means owning up to our actions and decisions. Owning up provides an opportunity to explain why you choose a particular path. In doing so you might educate others on why your choice is the best path in the given circumstance.

#### 3. Team Skills

Working with others is inevitable in IT. You will have your tasks to complete. But how well you interact with your team in giving and receiving help, or handing off tasks to the next person will greatly improve the efficiency of the team or organization you are part of.

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## 4. Trust

As an IT professional we are given a behind the scenes look into the daily operations of businesses. Often times we are alerted in advance that someone will be let go or a new hire or even an entire facility closure, we need this knowledge to properly service the organization. But keeping the knowledge confidential is as essential as the knowledge itself. I've known about some really good friends being laid off. They were mildly frustrated that I did not alert them, but one rewarded me with a rather lucrative contract at their next employer because I was able to handle confidential information properly.

## 5. Initiative

Opportunity might knock, but success does not wait patiently. I believe every good experience is preceded by a mediocre or downright bad experience. I've had my share of dead end, boring, mundane jobs. Everything will get to be mundane at some point. Sticking to your job and doing it well will always lead to satisfaction. Getting up every day knowing you will do your best, and looking for ways you can improve your situation will lead to at least personal satisfaction. With luck it will satisfy those around you as well.

## 6. Curiosity

Curiosity will lead you in mysterious ways. It will also help fuel the perpetual need to constantly learn.

## 7. Courage

IT is filled with a tremendous amount of decisions to be made. Ever see a squirrel skitter back and forth on a street? Not knowing whether or not to cross the street, and then after deciding, running almost to the other side, only to run back? Not much courage. 2 AM in front of a down server having to decide to continue troubleshooting or restore from a backup knowing there will be data loss takes a lot of courage. Indecision or a decision without courage can lead to a lot of stress. I've seen people and projects suffer more from indecision, or a decision without conviction than making a decision, moving forward and dealing with the consequences as they arise. There is nothing "painless", "end users will not be affected" or "piece of cake" in IT. We decide, we fix issues as they arise and we move forward.

Keep these thoughts in mind as you study and learn. Opportunities can come from anywhere. Be ready.

**- Greg Faust**

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