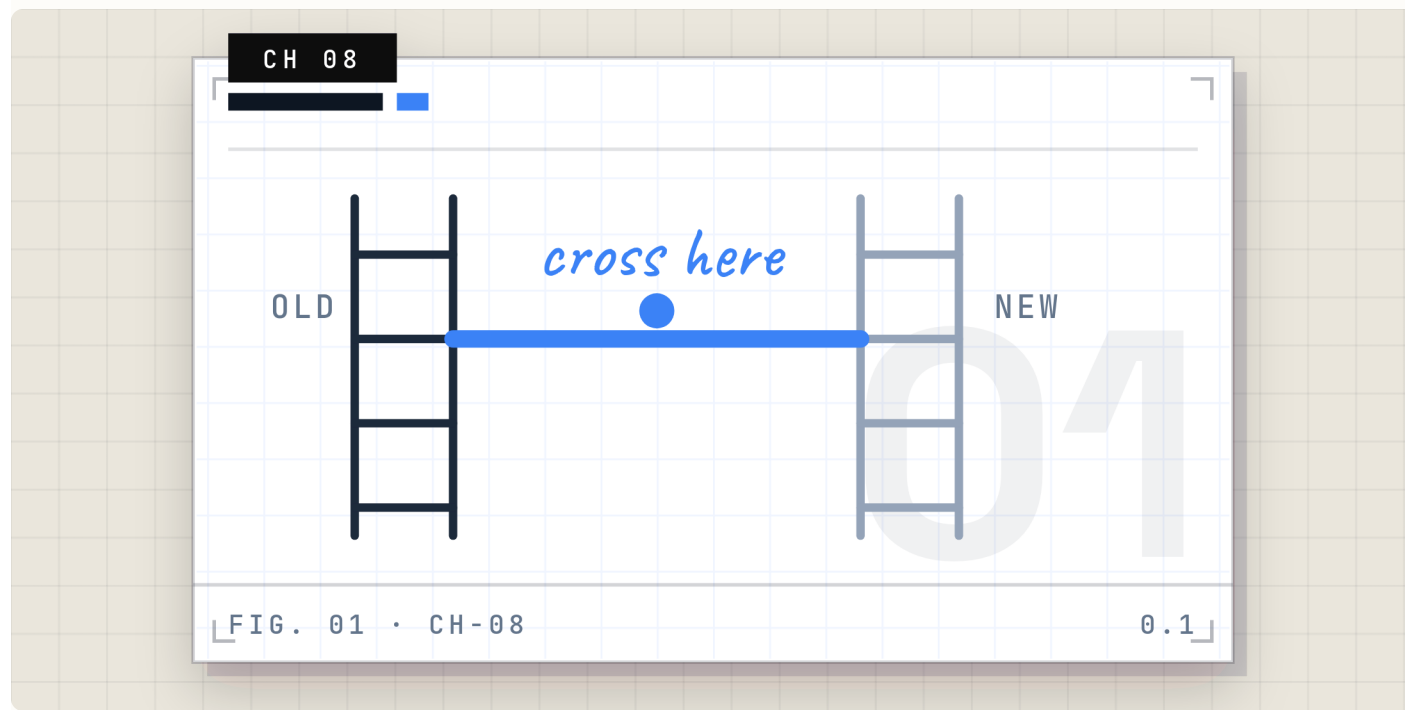


Is it possible to switch careers without losing all my experience?

By **Chris Baldwin** · Founder, Baldwin Blueprint · Updated June 2026



SHORT ANSWER

Yes. Identify the skills that transfer, reframe every achievement around outcomes the new field values, and target bridge roles where your old expertise is rare. You keep your seniority by translating it, not by asking the new industry to forgive it.

That tight feeling in your chest when you think about a career change is real. Most people worry they'll have to start at the bottom again. I can show you how to switch careers without sacrificing years of hard-won experience.

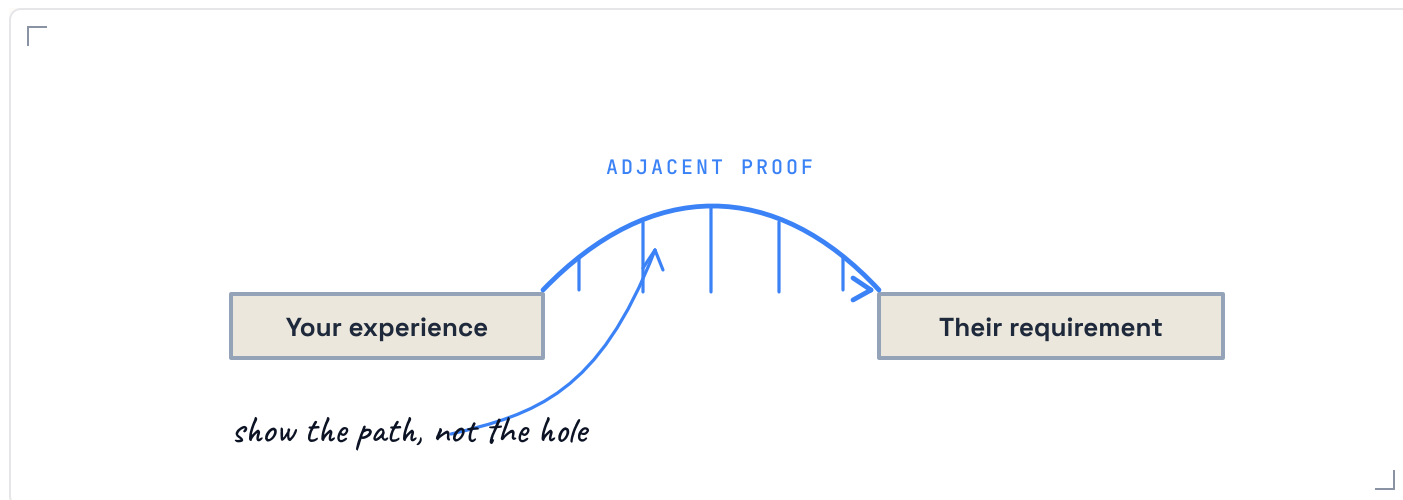


FIG. 02 You almost never match a job description perfectly, and that is fine. When a requirement is missing, do not apologize for the gap, bridge it with adjacent proof: the closest thing you have actually done. Name the bridge out loud so they see the path instead of the hole.

§ 01

How do I identify my transferable skills?

Your transferable skills are the core abilities you use in any role, regardless of industry or job title, representing the fundamental actions you take and the problems you solve. When you document your past work, focus on the actions you took, the problems you solved, and the results you achieved, not just the industry jargon. This approach reveals the underlying competencies that hiring managers truly value in a new field.

I've seen so many people list job duties, thinking that's enough. It isn't. Instead of "managed social media," think "developed content strategy to increase engagement by 20%." That shows a strategic mind and an ability to drive results, which transfers to almost any role. Your resume should translate your past into the language of your future.

§ 02

What does "reframing experience" actually mean?

Reframing your experience means translating your past achievements into the specific needs and language of the new role you want, highlighting how your past actions directly solve the problems the new company faces. This makes your experience relevant even if the industries are different.

Most job seekers just list what they did. You need to show why it matters to them. If you were a marketing coordinator applying to an operations role, don't just list "coordinated campaigns." Reframe it as "optimized workflow for campaign execution, reducing delivery time by 15%." That's an operations win. The goal is to connect your dots for them.

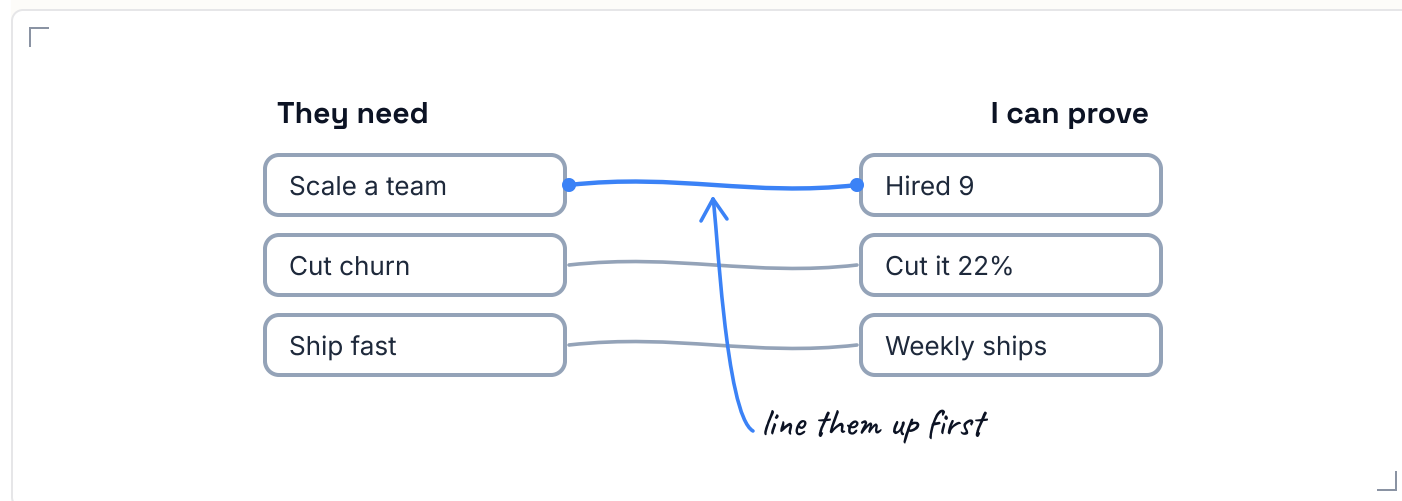


FIG. 03 Before I write a single line, I draw two columns: what they need on the left, what I can prove on the right. Then I draw lines connecting them. The gaps that have no line tell me exactly what to address in the cover note.

Build this for your role.

Paste a real posting, get the 12 page plan. First draft free.

Start free

§ 03

How does a Blueprint help me make this pivot?

A Baldwin Blueprint directly addresses the career change challenge by mapping your existing experience to a new job posting, showing exactly how you fit into the new role. It creates an Impact Memo, an Experience Accelerator, and a 30/60/90 day plan that speaks the hiring company's language.

The Blueprint isn't just a fancy resume rewrite. It's a strategic document that shows you exactly what to say and do. The Account Map helps you understand the company's structure, and the Strategic Signals tell you what they truly care about. This whole package gives you a concrete plan to demonstrate your value in a new context, built directly from the job posting itself.

TIME IN ROLE

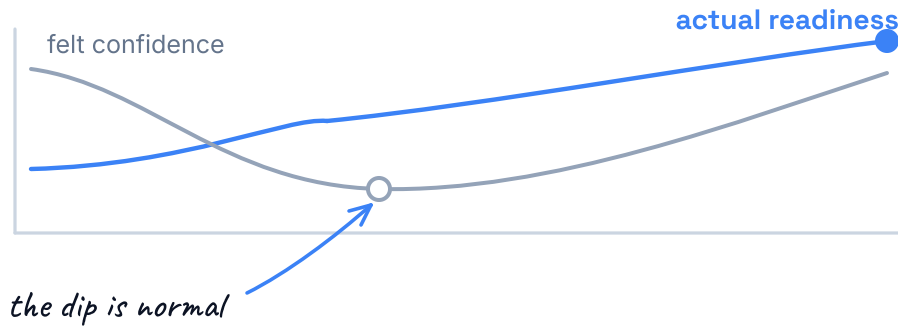


FIG. 04 Early in any new role my felt confidence dips hard, and I used to think that meant I was failing. It does not. The dip is the impostor phase while my actual readiness keeps climbing the whole time, so I just keep going until the two curves meet.

§ 04

Is it realistic to expect a similar level role?

Expecting to jump into an identical level of responsibility and compensation in a completely new field without any bridge experience is often unrealistic, though you certainly won't start over. A career pivot sometimes requires a strategic step sideways or a slight step back to gain specific domain experience.

This is my honest caveat: sometimes, you need to be strategic about your first move. You might take a role that's a slight downgrade in title or pay, but it gives you the specific industry experience you need. Think of it as an investment. You are building a new foundation, not abandoning your old one entirely. Most prep advice won't tell you this, but it's a critical truth.

§ 05

What if my past jobs feel totally unrelated?

Even if your past jobs seem entirely unrelated, every role involves core competencies like problem solving, communication, project management, and attention to detail. Focus on these underlying "meta skills" and illustrate them with concrete examples

from your past work, helping hiring managers see past the job title to your actual capabilities.

I've worked with former teachers who became successful project managers, and chefs who moved into operations. Their success came from identifying what they actually did every day, managing complex schedules, motivating teams, solving urgent problems, and then connecting those actions to the demands of the new role. It's about finding the common threads, no matter how disparate the fields appear.

WORKED EXAMPLE • RESUME BULLET

BEFORE

Managed customer inquiries and resolved issues daily.

AFTER

Streamlined customer support process, reducing average resolution time by 15% and improving customer satisfaction scores.

CAREER CHANGE STRATEGIES

What most people do	What actually works
Focus on job titles and industry experience	Focus on transferable skills and impact across roles
Apply to entry-level roles, starting over	Target roles that leverage existing high-level competencies
Hope their resume stands out for a new field	Use a strategic Blueprint to map past experience to the new job
List past duties and responsibilities	Reframe past achievements as solutions to new company's problems

The takeaways

- 01 Identify core transferable skills, not just job duties.
- 02 Reframe past achievements to solve new company's problems.
- 03 Target bridge roles where your old expertise is rare.
- 04 A strategic step sideways can accelerate a career pivot.

Questions people ask

Is this just a fancy cover letter?

No, a Baldwin Blueprint goes far beyond a cover letter. It's a 12 page strategic document including an Impact Memo, Account Map, and a 30/60/90 day plan built from the actual job posting. It provides a detailed strategy for your interview, not just a simple introduction.

Do I need to know exactly what new career I want?

You need a target job posting to build a Blueprint. While you don't need a full career path mapped out, having a specific role in mind allows us to strategically connect your past experience to its requirements. This focus ensures the Blueprint is highly relevant.

How long does it take to create a Blueprint?

The first draft of your Baldwin Blueprint is typically delivered within 24-48 hours after you provide your resume and a job posting. We prioritize speed so you can act quickly on opportunities. The initial draft is always free, no card required.

BUILD SHEET

This is the plan a Blueprint drafts for your exact role.

Paste in a real job posting and your resume. Get a tailored 12 page Blueprint in minutes.

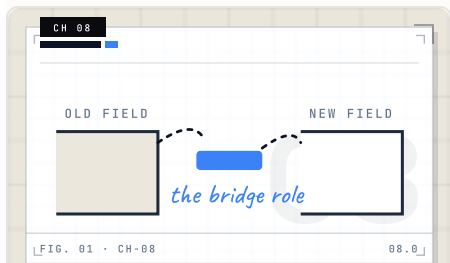
Your first draft is free.

[Start your free Blueprint](#)

Free, no card. No account needed to draft.

Or [read a real finished Blueprint](#) first. Free, no signup.

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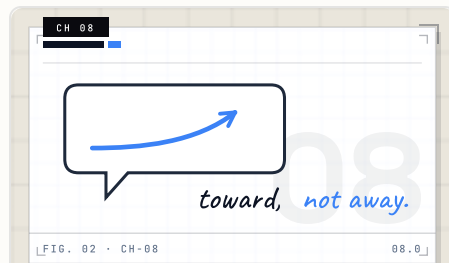
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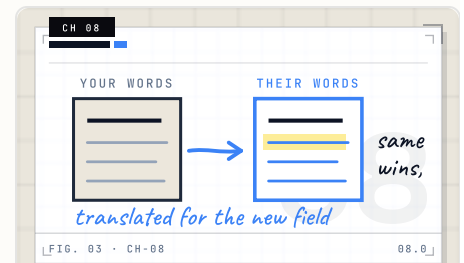
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