

Abolishing Bullsh*t Jobs

Technological advances and increased worker productivity promised more leisure and meaningful work, yet few of these benefits have trickled down to the vast majority of labor.

1. Shorter Workweeks:

A four-day workweek pushes organizations to focus on essential tasks, cutting out busy work and improving work-life balance.

2. Universal Basic Income (UBI):

UBI provides a financial safety net, allowing workers to leave meaningless jobs without hardship and seek roles that align with their interests.

3. Democratic Work Models:

Prioritizing transparency and giving workers a voice in decision-making fosters more engaging and valuable job opportunities.

Do I have a Bullsh*t job?

Do you feel pressure to maintain a facade of productivity?	
Is your work mostly busywork (e.g., filling out forms, attending meetings that go nowhere)?	
Do you spend more time on paperwork than actual work?	
Is there little to no opportunity for creative thinking or innovation in your role?	
Do you have coworkers who also seem disillusioned or uninterested in their roles?	
Have you noticed that your job could easily be automated?	
Do you think you have a bullsh*t job?	

If you checked the last box or 2 or more other boxes, you might have a bullsh*t job!

1. Gallup. *State of the Global Workplace: 2023 Report*. Gallup, 2023, <https://www.gallup.com/workplace/349484/state-of-the-global-workplace-2023-report.aspx>.
2. Workfront. *The State of Work Report 2020*. Workfront, 2020, <https://www.workfront.com/resources/state-of-work-report-2020>.
3. McKinsey Global Institute. *A Future That Works: Automation, Employment, and Productivity*. McKinsey & Company, 2017, <https://www.mckinsey.com/featured-insights/future-of-work/a-future-that-works-automation-employment-and-productivity>.

Bullsh*t Jobs

The rise of meaningless jobs and their consequences

What is a Bullsh*t Job?

A "bullsh*t job" is a form of employment that is so meaningless, unnecessary, or harmful that even the employee cannot justify its existence. It's often masked by corporate jargon or bureaucratic systems, leaving workers feeling unfulfilled, confused, or demoralized. The concept was originally proposed in a 2013 article by the anthropologist and activist David Graeber.

15%

of employees worldwide feel engaged in their work.¹

60%

of work time is spent on "work about work," like redundant meetings and admin tasks.²

60%

of existing jobs have been identified as having potential for automation.³

Types of Bullsh*t Jobs



Flunkies

Jobs that exist just to make others look or feel important.



Goons

Jobs that exist in sectors that create or maintain demand for things that otherwise wouldn't exist.



Duct Tapers

Jobs that exist solely to fix problems that could be avoided.



Box Tickers

Jobs created to give the appearance that something is being done when nothing is happening.



Taskmasters

Jobs that exist to supervise people who don't need supervision.

The Impact of Bullsh*t Jobs

Emotional Toll: People in these roles often suffer from depression, anxiety, and a loss of self-worth due to the lack of meaning in their work.

Wasted Potential: Time and talent that could be used productively are squandered, impacting overall societal progress.

Systemic Waste: Bullsh*t jobs create inefficiencies in businesses, government agencies, and other organizations, wasting resources and stifling innovation.

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