

Interview and CV preparation

Guide on Technical skills for Green Technology, Sustainability and Environment



What are technical skills?

Technical skills are the specialized knowledge and expertise required to perform specific tasks and use specific tools and programs in real world situations. Diverse technical skills are required in just about every field and industry, from IT and business administration to health care and education.

In fact, many entry-level positions across industries require basic technical skills, such as cloud computing in Google Drive and navigating social media platforms. Examples of more advanced technical skills that a job might require include programming languages, technical writing, or data analysis.

Technical skills, sometimes referred to as hard skills, that your resume/cv should always show the practical knowledge you use in order to complete tasks.

This guide will help you with the technical skills companies are expecting to see listed on your resume/cv based on the career field you are applying for.



What is the Green Tech career field?

Green technology is an umbrella term that describes the use of technology and science to create products and services that are environmentally friendly. It refers to products or services that improve operational performance while also reducing costs, energy consumption, waste, or negative effects on the environment.

The goal of green tech is to protect the environment, repair damage done to the environment in the past, and conserve the Earth's natural resources. Green tech has also become a burgeoning industry that has attracted enormous amounts of investment capital.



Within this career field we can find different roles you can work on, and each one has its own unique requirement you need to have included in your CV.

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Possible Careers in Real Estate

Environmental Consultant

Environmental consultants are curious **problem solvers** who have keen **attention to detail and organization**. They often hold the hands of organizations and companies as they tackle a large number of environmental issues. This can include green building and manufacturing, environmental disasters, sustainability initiatives, hazardous-waste remediation (disposal and cleanup), renewable energy, compliance, soil quality, water, and air.

Chief Sustainability Officer

Their primary objectives and responsibilities are to support companies to work in more sustainable and environmentally friendly ways. They not only **develop programs** that are in line with these objectives, but they also **oversee their implementation** amongst volunteers and employees of the companies. They are also responsible for the **assessment aspect of the program and reflections of effectiveness**. They continue to adapt programming according to assessment outcomes, ensuring that programming is efficient and effective.

Environmental Health & Safety Specialist

Environmental Health and Safety Specialists are responsible for **education and consulting with clients** to enforce health and safety regulations. Some of their daily tasks include **collecting and analyzing samples**. In addition, they are charged with the task of **monitoring and designing** wastewater disposal and well system installations. The other aspects of this position include the **management of programs** related to toxic waste contamination prevention.

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Possible Careers in Real Estate

Food Scientist

Food scientists have a lot of job responsibilities. Some of these include conducting experiments as they relate to their **research** regarding improvements to sustainability and productivity of farming practices, farm animals, and field crops. They are often charged with creating new food related products and **developing improved processing measures**. They **collaborate and communicate research** to the scientific community, manufacturers of food, and the communities at large. They also are the **communicators** for their findings within the scientific food community.

Forest and Conservation Technicians

Conservations technicians are the experts on hand when it comes to tasks required to ensure national and public forests are utilizing the most critical and up-to-date equipment and techniques to ensure maximum conservation. Not unlike many other careers in environmental sustainability on this list, forest and conservation technicians are responsible for **extensive data collection**. Generally professionals in this career path have a degree in **mathematics, geology, chemical/ mechanical civil engineering, agriculture**, among many other similar majors.

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General skills needed

Firstly, let's have a look at some general skills useful in this career field which you should include in your CV.

General hard skills:

- Market Analysis (specifically sustainable products etc)
- Database skills -data aggregation and presentation
- Data Management
- Project management
- Research and reporting - regulations
- Marketing strategy for green products
- Business Development
- Campaigning
- Client Relations and Support
- Lobbying
- Product Design
- Product Marketing
- Product Testing
- Project Management
- Technical Support

General soft skills:

- Attention to detail
- Creativity
- Time-management skills
- Teamwork and collaboration
- Problem-solving
- Critical thinking
- Effective planning
- Strong organization



CV example

This is a CV example template for an Environmental Engineer. It is divided into several sections: Profile, Education, Work experience, Languages, Skills, Professional Skills, Interpersonal Skills, Volunteering, Certificates, and Hobbies. The Profile section describes the candidate as a performance-driven and motivated Environmental Engineer. The Education section lists a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering. The Work experience section details the candidate's role as an Environmental Engineer at Carrington West, Inc., highlighting various responsibilities and achievements. The Languages section lists Arabic, English, French, and Spanish. The Skills section lists various technical and professional skills. The Professional Skills section includes a bar chart showing proficiency in Mathematics/Science, Quality Control Analysis, Systems Evaluation, and Technological Expertise. The Interpersonal Skills section includes a bar chart showing proficiency in Complex Problem-solving, Communication Skills, Critical Thinking, Decision Making, Good Team Player, Multitasking, and Time Management. The Volunteering section lists the candidate's role as Vice President of the University of Greenwich Engineering Society. The Certificates section lists a Chartered Environmentalist certificate and a Driving Licence. The Hobbies section lists Exploring distant lands, Getting lost in a good book, and Every kind of sport.

Profile

Performance-driven and motivated Environmental Engineer recognized for conducting professional site inspections and detailed project field assessments. Adept at developing and implementing new waste programmes, performing research, and providing advice on current environmental laws and regulations. Offers great knowledge of mathematics/science, excellent problem-solving skills, and extraordinary critical thinking abilities. Brahim is currently looking for an Environmental Engineer position with a forward-moving organisation.

Education

IB Diploma Programme 09/2008 – 05/2010
Amman Academy, Jordan, Amman
Graduated with Distinction (Grade 1 – A/excellent equivalent in all subjects)
Activities: Math Society, Physics Society

Skills

Languages

Arabic	Native
English	Full
French	Limited
Spanish	Limited

Professional Skills

Mathematics/Science	██████████
Quality Control Analysis	██████████
Systems Evaluation	██████████
Technological Expertise	██████████

Interpersonal Skills

Complex Problem-solving	██████████
Communication Skills	██████████
Critical Thinking	██████████
Decision Making	██████████
Good Team Player	██████████
Multitasking	██████████
Time Management	██████████

Work experience

Environmental Engineer 07/2015 – 04/2019
Carrington West, Inc., Bristol, United Kingdom

- Performed regular site inspections and project field assessments; conducted reports and analysed results, ensuring that all policies and procedures were fully followed.
- Monitored and controlled wastewater/waste air; stayed up-to-date with current environmental laws and regulations.
- Worked closely with hydro-geologists and other professionals on the development and implementation of a new waste programme which significantly reduced expenses and increased efficiency.
- Performed research on groundwater collected from sites; was in charge of SWPPP and SPCC development.
- Reduced the amount of generated waste by 65% within 3 years.
- Awarded Employee of the Month for performing great work.

Education

Environmental Engineering 09/2014 – 05/2015
University of the West of England, Bristol, United Kingdom

Master's degree
Top 5% of the Programme

Mechanical Engineering 09/2010 – 05/2014
University of Greenwich, London, United Kingdom

Bachelor's degree
First Class Honours
Clubs and Societies: Engineering Society, Politics Society, Volleyball Club

Volunteering

Vice President 09/2012 – 05/2013
University of Greenwich Engineering Society, London, United Kingdom

Certificates

Chartered Environmentalist 06/2015
Institution of Civil Engineers

Driving Licence 03/2014
Driving School

Hobbies

Exploring distant lands
Getting lost in a good book
Every kind of sport

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Steps to take for interview prep

- Refresh your fundamentals
- Research the company to gain an understanding of their work culture
- Prepare technical and soft skill interview questions and answers
- Prepare a portfolio to demonstrate any previous work or skills
- Be aware of your strengths and areas of improvement and have an idea of how you will improve in these areas.

Questions which are helpful to prepare

There would be a mix of standard behavioral questions and technical questions to assess your skills and where you would be most utilized within the company during your internship.

1. What are some of the most important skills for someone in the Green Tech field to have?
2. How do you think the field of environmental technology will change in the next few years?
3. Provide an example of a time when you identified an environmental problem and how you solved it.
4. How well do you understand environmental regulations and laws?
5. Do you have any experience writing reports or documenting findings?
6. We want to increase our sustainability efforts. What are some ways you could help us do this
7. Which software programs or databases have you used in the past for environmental analysis?
8. There is a new technology that could make your job easier. How would you decide if it was worth adopting?
9. What strategies do you use to ensure accuracy in your data collection?

Remember, that this is an internship, and if there are things you are unsure of - that is completely okay! This is a learning experience and your supervisor is there to support you. Be sure to be honest and transparent regarding your skills and capabilities.