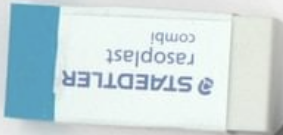




DO SOFT SKILLS MATTER?



What about your soft skills? Do you think good skills can help you to get better job, to become more successful? Are those skills really so important? Read story about Karolina Krawczyk from Poland. She is convinced – soft skills helped to develop her career and achieve her goals.

POLAND



Karolina Krawczyk, Senior Procurement Specialist, AstraZeneca Pharma
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I love being a free, relaxed person when visiting my beloved Italy or just strolling in my beautiful city Kraków – without a plan, I love when paths and streets get me to their secret ends and wondrous corners. But when it comes to study or work life on the contrary - planning, time management and being well organized is critical. As an ambitious law student I had to almost perfectly organize my time for each faculty and to prepare well for the exams. Students do not live only for the exams though! Hence, planning my time I had to bear in mind not only my learning hours but also I had to schedule sports activities and social life as well. Without good organisation f.e. listing my priorities for the day and precise chapters which I want to finish each day, I wouldn't pass the exams with brilliant scores and still have friends!

Later on, those skills turned out to be crucial on a daily basis at work. Additionally, when I was working for a public administration in Warsaw as an coordinator and organizer in a diplomatic and international area, I also had to familiarize myself with other vital soft skills which were: perfect communication beyond state borders, patience and willingness to hear what the other side has to offer, but also assertiveness and confidence which is very important when you coordinate the work of couple groups of people, sometimes coming from different countries which means from various culture environments. Those skills contributed to many successful visits and this particular attitude helped me not once, not twice in emergency situations – I was able to make quick decisions and I could count on (not a little at all) help from my friends! Those abilities subsequently also have helped me find a great job in a global company and perform other – after work activities.

The best aspect of walking hand in hand with the soft skills in your school or work environment is the fact that you start to live your everyday life utilizing those skills and they commence to be part of your character. This at the end of the day, gives you a great openness for others, people like to spend your time with you and you are able to combine your work with realizing your passions and still you are able to have a great part of the time for a true rest.

<http://skills.turiba.lv>