
MASTER YOUR SOFTWARE ENGINEERING CAREER

THE 10X SOFTWARE ENGINEER.

A DEFINITIVE NO-BULLSHIT GUIDE FOR
ACCELERATED GROWTH AT WORK FOR
EARLY TO MID-STAGE DEVELOPERS.

**GOPI KRISHNA
LAKKEPURAM**

CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	xv
<i>A Short Note</i>	xxi

PART I FOUNDATIONS

PURSUING EXCELLENCE	3
<i>in Skills and Knowledge</i>	
DEVELOPING CLARITY	7
<i>in Thoughts and Actions</i>	
DELIVERING VALUE	9
<i>with Speed and Agility</i>	
TAKING CONTROL	11
<i>of Situations to Lead</i>	

PART II SUSTAIN

1. RAISE THE BAR	17
Play the Long Game	18
Embrace the Unknown	22
Be Authentic	25
Find Your Drive	26
Respect Your Profession	27
2. GROW YOUR COMPANY	29
Understand Your Company	30
Move to the Right Group	32
Serve Your Stakeholders	34
Take Pride in Your Work	35
3. DON'T LIVE IN THE PAST	39
Stop Academic Behaviors	40
Adapt Quickly to New Workplaces	42
Make the Most of Where You Are At	43

4. WORK BEYOND JOB TITLES	47
Trust as the Foundation	49
Failures as Opportunities	51
Leveraging the 80-20 Rule	52
Focus on Building, Not Coding	54
5. DON'T PROCRASTINATE	57
Find Your Hook	58
Develop a Healthy Mind	59
Start Your Day Early	61
6. LEARN TO LEARN FAST	65
Adopt the 70-20-10	66
Create Learning Circles	68
Develop a Growth Mindset	69
Bonus: How I Wrote This Book	71
OPTIONAL: HOW TO SABOTAGE YOUR CAREER	73

PART III
GROW

7. BE PRODUCTIVE AT WORK	79
Set Yourself up for Focus	80
Begin with the End in Mind	82
Divide and Conquer	83
Optimize Every Hour	84
8. FOCUS ON IMPACT	89
Seek Absolute Clarity	90
Delay Your Gratifications	91
Put Team Wins Ahead	93
9. BECOME A PRO	95
Measure Objectively	96
Don't Undersell Yourself	97
Present Your Case	99
Commit and Deliver	100
Hold Others Accountable	102

10. DON'T PILE ON TECH DEBT	105
Don't Try to Be a Hero	106
Ensure Code Resilience	108
Address Knowledge Gaps	109
11. CODE LESS, NOT MORE	111
Reuse and Refactor Continuously	111
Make Complex Code Simple	113
Reassess Your Tech Stack Periodically	114
Build Enterprise-Grade Solutions	115
12. CONQUER YOUR IMPOSTOR SYNDROME	119
Build Your Identity	120
Let Your Intelligence Work for You	123
Practice Your Way to Perfection	125
13. DEVELOP PROCESSES	127
Seek Messiness	128
Make Everything Move Faster	130
Personal Processes	130
14. BE OBSESSED	133
Deal with Your Biases	134
Ask the Right Questions	136
Seek Actionable Feedback	138

PART IV
CONTROL

15. MAKE PROMOTIONS HAPPEN	143
Science behind Promotions	144
Justify Your Existence	146
Deserve Your Promotion	147
16. LEVERAGE PEOPLE	151
Engage with Your Peers	152
Lead without Managing	154
Align with Your Bosses	156
17. INVEST IN YOURSELF	161
Think Outside Your Job	162
Become Highly Self-Aware	163

Leverage Your Strengths	165
Work on Your Growth Blockers	166
18. FINDING YOUR NEXT JOB	169
Learn to Network	170
Make a Stellar Resume	171
Tips for Writing Stellar Resumes	172
Apply to Jobs That Align	174
19. LEVERAGE TIME	177
Buy Time with Money	178
Develop Other Income Streams	179
Epilogue	181
<i>Testimonials</i>	187
<i>Notes</i>	189
<i>Stay Connected</i>	191
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	193
<i>About the Author</i>	195