



MJOJO CLEANING SERVICE

FROM RETRENCHMENT TO CEO

**BUSINESS BASICS
EXPLAINED: MONEY,
PRICING & SYSTEMS**

CAREERS THAT STILL MAKE SENSE IN TODAY'S ECONOMY



7 SKILLS THAT INCREASE YOUR INCOME IN ANY INDUSTRY

What the market actually pays for

Mindset, Confidence & Identity

The inner work behind
progress

How to Build a Life That Supports Growth

Habits, structure, and routines

Action, clarity, and progress – not hype

**CROWN OCT
CLOTHING**



**CROWN OCT
CLOTHING**

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How To Build A Life That Support Growth

Habits, Structure and Routines

MARKETPLACE 247

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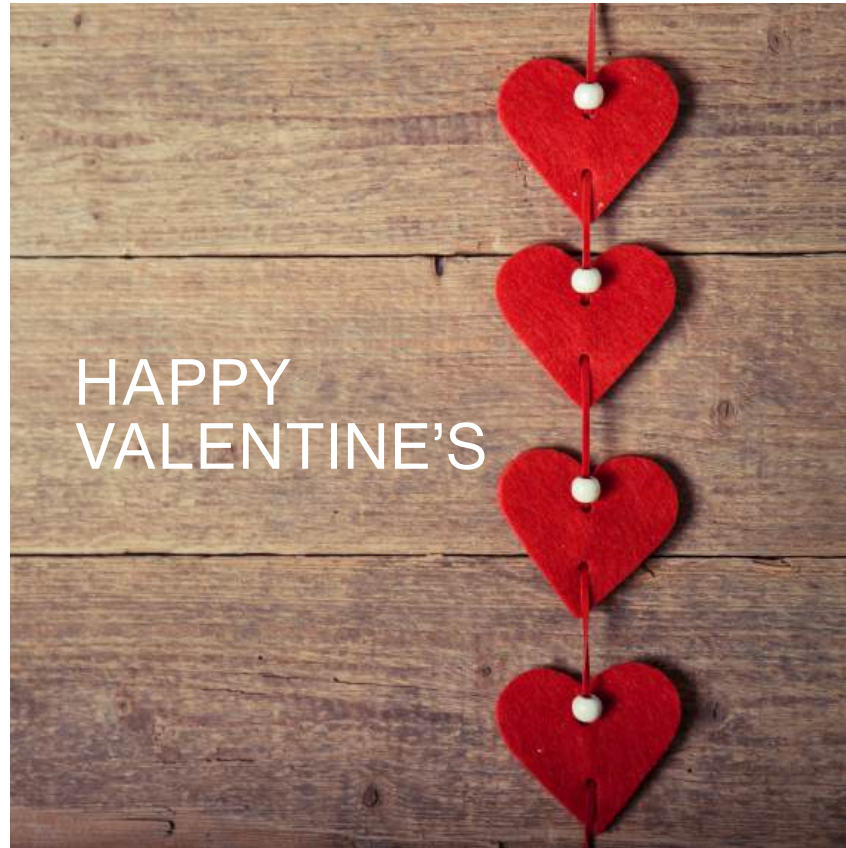
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Our Magazine Focus

Business

We hunt down the best local businesses, products and reliable services so you don't have to. We do the vetting; you get the best.

Career

Whether you're looking for a job, promotion, to start a business, a side hustle or your next big move, we bring you the tips to help you win this year.

Lifestyle

Your guide to living well. From the hottest local fashion to the best weekend escapes, we find the "must-haves" for your 2026.

From The Editor

Welcome to Marketplace 247 Magazine.

We live in a time where life is no longer neatly divided into work, income, and personal life. Your job affects your lifestyle. Your lifestyle affects your performance. And your income determines your options.

Yet most conversations still treat these areas as if they exist in isolation.

This magazine was created to change that.

Marketplace 247 Magazine is built for people who are navigating real life, building careers, starting or growing businesses, and trying to live well in the middle of it all. Not just to survive, but to grow with intention. Here, we talk about business without hype, careers without outdated advice, and lifestyle without pretending life is perfect. We focus on practical insight, honest conversations, and ideas you can actually use.

Whether you are: Building a business, growing in your profession, exploring new income streams, or simply trying to live a more balanced and meaningful life, this magazine is for you.

Every issue is designed to help you think clearer, act smarter, and move forward with confidence, wherever you are on your journey. Thank you for being part of Marketplace 247.

Let's build, grow, and live well together.

Editor-in-Chief

Joseph Themba (JT)

Marketplace 247 Magazine



WHY THIS MAGAZINE?



BUSINESS

For builders, side-hustlers, entrepreneurs, and problem-solvers

This section focuses on real business, not hype.

What readers get:

- Practical business ideas (digital & physical)
- Simple explanations of complex business concepts
- Compliance, money, systems, and strategy made understandable
- Stories of ordinary people building sustainable income
- Tools, templates, and insights that can be acted on immediately

Core question we answer:

How do I build something that actually makes money and lasts?



CAREER

For professionals, graduates, job-seekers, and people planning their next move

This section is about career growth in the real world, not outdated advice.

What readers get:

- Career navigation in a fast-changing economy
- Skills that increase employability and income
- Salary insights, career paths, and role breakdowns
- Workplace psychology, confidence, and professional identity
- Guidance for moving from employee → independent → entrepreneur (if desired)

Core question we answer:

How do I grow, earn more, and stay relevant in my career?



LIFESTYLE

For people who want a balanced, intentional, and meaningful life

Lifestyle is not luxury, it's how you live daily.

What readers get:

- Personal growth and mindset
- Relationships, family, and social dynamics
- Health, habits, and emotional well-being
- Faith, purpose, values, and identity
- Real conversations people don't usually have publicly

Core question we answer:

How do I live well while building and working?

BUSINESS

DISCOVER BUSINESSES, HEAR
THEIR STORIES, LEARN
BUSINESS TIPS AND SECRETS



Mjojo Cleaning Service: From Retrenchment To CEO

"IF NOBODY WILL HIRE US, WE WILL HIRE OURSELVES."

The Day the World Stopped

There is a specific kind of silence that follows a retrenchment notice. It's the sound of a steady paycheck flatlining and the loud, intrusive question that follows: What now? For **Zinhle** and **Precious**, that silence was deafening. They found themselves standing in the gap between a career that was gone and a future that hadn't been written yet. They were faced with the two faces of the South African struggle: **uncertainty and unemployment.**

They could have waited for a phone call that might never come. They could have sent out a thousand CVs into the digital void. Instead, they looked at each other and made a

PHOTOGRAPHY SUPPLIED BY MJOJO CLEANING SERVICE



choice that would change their lives: "If nobody will hire us, we will hire ourselves."

Seeing the Gap, Feeling the Pain

They didn't choose the cleaning industry because it was "easy." They chose it because they saw how it was broken. They saw clients frustrated by unreliable services, "exaggerated pricing," and a total lack of genuine care.



But there was a deeper pain they wanted to heal. They saw cleaners who were undervalued, underpaid, and treated as invisible.

"We didn't want to just mop floors," Zinhle explains. "We wanted to restore the dignity of the profession." They set out to prove that you don't need a formal degree to build a legacy of excellence you just need a standard that you refuse to lower.

The Steam and the Soul

The early days were a battle of grit over gear. They started with limited, outdated equipment that made every job twice as hard. But they followed the golden rule of business: Persistence and Reinvestment. While others might have spent their first profits on luxuries,



Zinhle and Precious poured every cent back into the "Engine Room." Today, the Mjojo experience is defined by professional-grade innovation. Their investment in advanced steam-cleaning technology isn't just about "cleaning better" it's about the health of the families they serve. It's about deep, eco-friendly, chemical-free hygiene that makes a home feel like a sanctuary again.

Beyond the Bucket: A Mission for the Mind

In 2026, we are all overwhelmed. Between the hustle and the heat of daily life, our homes often become another source of stress. Zinhle and Precious realized that when they clear the clutter, they clear the mind. Through structured checklists and meticulous before-and-after documentation, they provide more than just "transparency" they provide peace of mind. They've turned a service into a system, and a system into a trusted community brand.

Takeaway

Zinhle and Precious are the living embodiment of our motto: Action, clarity, and progress, not hype. They took the "uncertainty" of unemployment and forged it into a business that serves the people, uplifts the worker, and honors the craft.

From retrenchment to CEO? It's not just a title. For Zinhle and Precious, it's a lived reality.

Q & A

1. Tell us about yourself and your role in the business

We are Zinhle and Precious, the founders and owners of Mjojo Cleaning Service. We oversee daily operations, client relations, quality control, and staff training. As hands-on founders, we are deeply involved in ensuring that every service delivered reflects our values of trust, professionalism, and care.

2. When and why did you start this business?

We started Mjojo Cleaning Service after being retrenched from our previous jobs. Faced with unemployment and uncertainty, we chose to create our own opportunity. The business was born from both necessity and a strong desire to change how cleaning services are delivered.

3. What makes your business different from others in the same space?

Our transparency, structured processes, and genuine care for clients set us apart. We use checklists, provide before-and-after photos, and operate with accountability and trust. As well as Eco-Friendly Steam Cleaning

4. Do you have a special message or offer for Marketplace 247 readers?

When you choose Mjojo Cleaning Service, you're choosing trust, professionalism, and peace of mind.

Our Services

- Residential Deep Cleaning
- Move-In/Move-Out Cleaning
- Upholstery Cleaning
- Carpet Cleaning
- Eco-Friendly Steam Cleaning

Get in touch with Us

- ✓ Call / WhatsApp to book a service
- ✓ Follow Mjojo Cleaning Service on social media
- ✓ Enquire about professional and eco-friendly cleaning solution

Our Customers

- Busy professionals,
- families,
- landlords,
- tenants, and
- homeowners

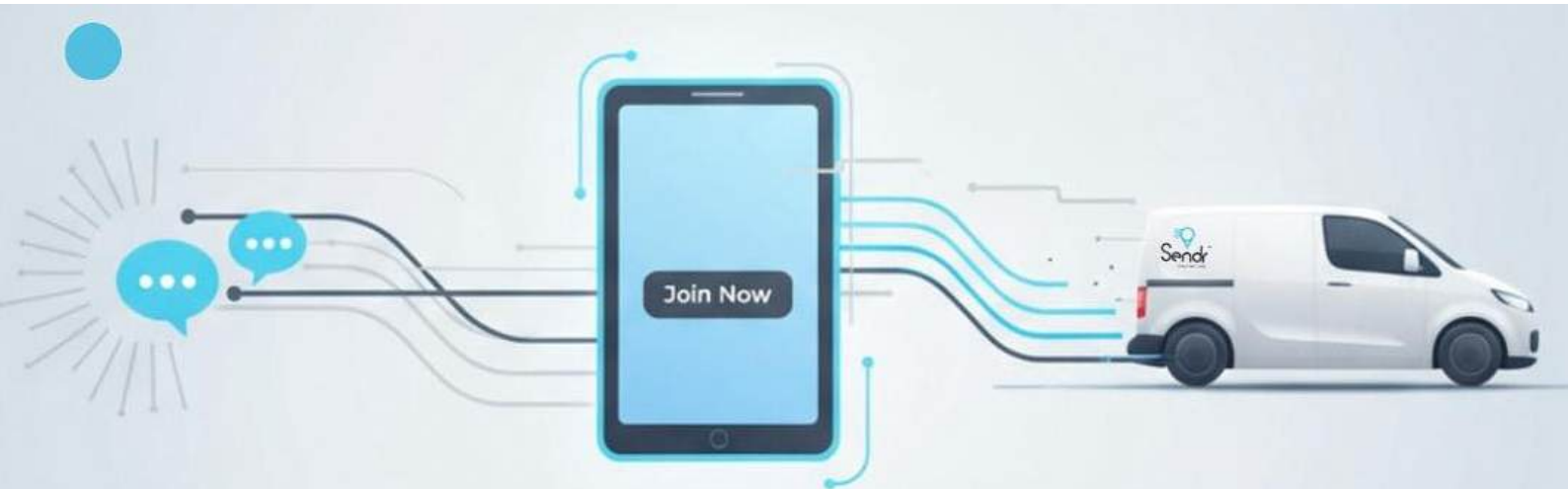
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BY LISA DU TOIT | PHOTOGRAPHY : CANVA

Business Basics Explained: Money, Pricing, and Systems

In the beginning, business is all about passion. You have an idea, you find a customer, and you make a sale. But passion doesn't pay the rent when the economy gets tight. If you want a business that lasts longer than a few months, you have to move past "hustling" and start building a structure.

To survive in today's market, you must master three things: how the money moves, how you charge for your value, and how the work gets done when you aren't in the room.



1. Money: The Lifeblood (Cash Flow over Profit)

There is a hard lesson every entrepreneur learns eventually: Profit is a theory; Cash is a reality. You can have a "profitable" month on paper because you signed a big contract, but if that client hasn't paid you yet, you are broke.

- **Watch the Burn Rate:** You need to know exactly how much it costs to keep your doors open for 30 days. Rent, data, petrol, salaries, this is your "Burn Rate." If you don't know this number, you are flying blind.
- **The 3-Month Buffer:** In South Africa, things go wrong. A strike, a power outage, or a late-paying government department can sink you. Your first goal isn't a new car; it's a business savings account with three months of operating costs tucked away.
- **Separate Your Pockets:** The biggest mistake small business owners make is using the business bank account as a personal ATM. Pay yourself a fixed salary. If the business can't afford to pay you a salary yet, you don't have a business, you have a job that pays poorly.

2. Pricing: Charging for Value, Not Just Time

Most people price their services by looking at what their neighbor charges and going slightly lower. This is a "race to the bottom" where everyone loses.

- **The Cost-Plus Trap:** Don't just add 20% to your costs. You have to factor in your "Invisible Costs" the time you spent marketing, the wear and tear on your tools, and the tax you owe SARS.
- **The Value Gap:** People don't pay for your time; they pay for the problem you solve. A plumber who fixes a leak in 10 minutes isn't charging for 10 minutes of work; they are charging for the 10 years it took them to learn how to fix it in 10 minutes.
- **Price for the Future:** If you price your products so low that you can only survive by doing all the work yourself, you can never grow. You must price high enough to eventually hire someone else to do the work for you.

3. Systems: Building a Machine, Not a Job

If your business stops working the moment you get sick or go on holiday, you don't own a business, you own a job. Systems are the "instruction manuals" for your company.

- **The "Standard Operating Procedure" (SOP):** Every task you do more than once needs a system. How do you answer the phone? How do you send an invoice? How do you handle a complaint? Write it down.
- **Automation is Your Best Employee:** In 2026, you shouldn't be manually sending payment reminders. Use software to handle your invoicing, your social media scheduling, and your customer database.
- **The "Hit-by-a-Bus" Test:** Ask yourself: "If I was hit by a bus tomorrow, would my customers still get what they paid for?" If the answer is no, you need to start building systems today.

At the end of the day, a business is either a machine that serves you, or a monster that you serve. Most people are terrified of the "basics." They would rather spend hours on Canva designing a logo than thirty minutes looking at a spreadsheet or writing down a workflow. But a logo won't save you when your cash flow runs dry, and passion won't help you when you're too burnt out to answer the phone.

Mastering money, pricing, and systems isn't about becoming a "corporate" robot. It's about buying your freedom. It's about building something that has a value beyond your own physical labor. When you get the basics right, you stop being a "hustler" who is constantly stressed about the next Rand, and you start being a CEO who is in control of their future.

The marketplace is brutal to those who are disorganized, but it is incredibly generous to those who are prepared. Don't just work in your business today, take an hour to work on it. The foundation you build this month is what will hold you up next year.

DONT LET THE BAD GUYS STEAL YOUR INFORMATION..



LET ZENATECH I.T. HELP SECURE YOUR MOST PRECIOUS INFORMATION



Zenatech IT: Built On Resilience, Not Handouts

BY THEO SIBIYA | PHOTOGRAPHY BY ZENATECH IT

“Launched with zero external funding and no inherited safety net”

Most IT companies start with a massive budget and a shiny office. Zenatech IT started with a laptop, a clear vision, and a lot of late nights.



Launched with zero external funding and no inherited safety net, this is a business built from the ground up. It's a story of what happens when you stop waiting for the "perfect time" and just start building with what you've got. Today, Zenatech IT remains a hands-on operation where every strategy, every supplier negotiation, and every client solution is handled with the same discipline that started the company.

Solving the "Over-Complicated" Problem

If you've ever felt like your IT provider was speaking a different language or worse, trying to sell you a R50,000 solution for a R5,000 problem you aren't alone. Zenatech IT was born out of that exact frustration.

Too many homeowners and small businesses are being underserved by providers who focus on complexity instead of clarity. Zenatech IT was created to be the alternative: honest guidance, practical gear, and technology that actually works when you turn it on.

The Practical Essentials

In the South African context, we don't have time for tech that fails. Whether it's networking infrastructure, security systems, or the power backups that keep the lights on during the "dark hours," Zenatech IT focuses on the essentials. The goal isn't to sell you the most expensive gear; it's to provide hardware that balances performance with long-term value.

Why the "Personal" Touch Matters

In an industry full of automated bots and "please hold" music, there is a massive advantage to dealing with a founder who actually answers the phone. Zenatech IT serves the people who want a trusted partner, someone who understands that for a small business or a busy home, tech isn't just a luxury; it's the backbone of everything you do.

The Bottom Line

Zenatech IT is not about being the biggest; it's about being the most intentional. It's proof that when skill meets perseverance, you don't need a mountain of resources to make a massive impact. As the business grows into the rest of 2026, the mission stays the same: technology should empower people, not intimidate them.

Our Services

- IT hardware, software and accessories as well as some consumer goods and electronics
- Networking solutions (routers, switches, wireless systems)
- Power backup solutions (UPS and inverter systems)
- Security solutions (CCTV and access control)

Get in touch with Us

- ✓ Call / WhatsApp to book a service
- ✓ Follow Zeenatech IT on social media
- ✓ Enquire about our IT Services Solutions

Our Customers

- Home users,
- Entrepreneurs,
- startups, and
- Small to medium-sized businesses across South Africa.

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CAREER

CAREER SKILLS, INTERVIEW
TIPS AND THE LATEST IN THE
WORK OF WORK



7 Skills That Increase Your Income In Any Industry:

What the market actually pays for

BY SCOTT WILLIAMS | IMAGE CREDIT: CANVA

Let's be honest: your degree is probably the least interesting thing about your professional profile. While a qualification might get you through the door, it's rarely what keeps you in the room when the big salary decisions are being made.

In 2026, the market isn't just paying for what you know; it's paying for the "multiplier effect" you bring to a team.

In a struggling economy, the first people to get cut are the ones who are "just doing their jobs." If your value is tied to a list of tasks that a computer or a cheaper junior can do, you are standing on thin ice. The market doesn't pay for effort; it pays for the size of the problem you can solve.



If you want to see a real increase in your bank balance this year, you don't need a new degree. You need to "stack" your existing experience with these seven high-leverage skills. These are the multipliers—the abilities that make you valuable in a hospital, on a farm, or in a boardroom.

1. High-Stakes Negotiation

Most people don't get what they are worth; they get what they negotiate. Whether you are asking for a raise, closing a client, or dealing with a supplier, the ability to stay calm and find the "win" is a license to print money. Negotiation isn't about being a bully; it's about understanding the other person's fears and showing them how you are the solution. If you can save a company R100,000 in a single meeting, they won't blink when you ask for your cut.

3. Data Storytelling

We are drowning in information but starving for meaning. Almost anyone can pull a report, but very few people can look at a pile of numbers and tell a CEO exactly what they need to do next. If you can translate "boring" data into a clear strategy that increases profit or cuts waste, you become the most important person in the room. Decisions are made on data, but they are driven by the person who can explain it.

2. AI-Augmented Productivity

In 2026, the divide isn't between "tech people" and "non-tech people." It's between those who use AI and those who are being replaced by it. You don't need to be a coder. You need to be a master of the tools. A lawyer who uses AI to research a case in ten minutes instead of ten hours is ten times more valuable to the firm. This skill is about speed. If you can produce high-quality work at three times the pace of your peers, you aren't just an employee anymore; you're an asset.

4. Crisis Management and "Antifragility"

South Africa is a masterclass in chaos. Between logistics breakdowns, power issues, and market shifts, things go wrong every single day. The person who panics is a liability. The person who stays sober, finds the workaround, and keeps the machine moving during a crisis is worth their weight in gold. Companies pay a premium for "peace of mind." If you are the one who handles the fire while everyone else is running away from it, you will never be out of a job.

5. Digital Self-Marketing

It doesn't matter how good you are if nobody knows you exist. In today's economy, you are a brand, whether you like it or not. The ability to clearly communicate your value on platforms like LinkedIn or through a professional network is a survival skill. This isn't about "influencing" or being famous; it's about making sure the right people know exactly what problem you solve. Visibility plus ability equals opportunity.

6. Financial Literacy and Unit Economics

You cannot grow what you cannot measure. Most professionals have no idea how their specific role actually makes the company money. When you understand the "unit economics" of your industry, how much it costs to acquire a customer and how much profit that customer brings in, you start making better decisions. When you speak the language of money, you get invited to the tables where the money is being handed out.

7. Emotional Intelligence and Conflict Resolution

As the world gets more digital, the "human" skills become more expensive. Large projects fail most often because of "people problems," not technical ones. If you can navigate office politics, manage a difficult team, and de-escalate a heated situation with a client, you are a rare find. Leadership is essentially just high-level emotional intelligence. It's the ability to move people toward a goal without burning them out.

None of these skills are taught in a traditional classroom, which is exactly why they are so valuable. They are "hard-won" abilities that require practice, failure, and a lot of skin in the game.

The goal isn't to be a "jack of all trades." The goal is to be a master of your craft who has a "stack" of these multipliers. When you combine deep technical knowledge with the ability to negotiate, handle a crisis, and use AI, you become a one-person economy. You stop begging for opportunities and start choosing them.

Mindset, Confidence, And Identity: The Inner *Work* Behind Progress

BY THEO SIBIYA

You can have the best business plan in South Africa, a bank account full of startup capital, and a degree from the best university in the country and you will still fail if you haven't fixed the person in the mirror.

Most people think progress is a matter of "doing." They think if they just work more hours or find the right "hack," they'll finally make it. But the truth is much more sobering: we don't get what we want; we get what we think we deserve. If your identity is still rooted in your past failures, or if you still see yourself as "just a guy from the township" or "someone who isn't good with money," you will subconsciously sabotage every opportunity that comes your way.

Progress isn't just an external shift in your bank balance. It's an internal migration. You have to move out of your old self before you can move into your new life.

The Identity Trap

We all carry a "mental thermostat." If you believe you are a "R10,000-a-month" person, and you suddenly make R50,000, your mind will go into a panic. You'll start spending recklessly, or you'll get lazy, or you'll find a way to lose that money just to get back to the "temperature" you're comfortable with.

Real confidence doesn't come from "positive thinking" or looking in the mirror and shouting affirmations. That's cheap. Real confidence is built on a trail of evidence. It's the result of making a small promise to yourself and actually keeping it. When you say you're going to wake up at 5 AM and you actually do it, you've just given your brain one piece of evidence that you are a man or woman of your word.

Identity is the "Who." Progress is the "What." You cannot have the "What" until you become the "Who."

The "Imposter" is a Liar

We need to talk about Imposter Syndrome. That nagging feeling that you're a fraud and that eventually, everyone is going to find out you don't know what you're doing.

Here's the grounded truth: Everybody is winging it. The CEO of the bank, the guy running the solar farm, the specialist surgeon, they all have moments where they feel like they are in over their heads. The difference between those who move forward and those who stay stuck is that the "Progressors" realize that feeling unqualified is actually a sign of growth. If you feel comfortable, you aren't growing. If you feel a bit like a fraud, it's usually because you've finally stepped into a room that's big enough for your future.

Protecting the Perimeter

The "inner work" also means being brutal about your environment. You cannot build a billion-rand mindset while hanging out with people who have ten-cent dreams.

Confidence is fragile when it's new. If you are trying to build a career in the new economy, you have to protect your focus like it's your life—because it is. This means turning off the noise, ignoring the "haters" (who are usually just people too scared to try what you're doing), and realizing that "No" is a complete sentence. Your identity is shaped by what you say "Yes" to, but it is protected by what you say "No" to.

Progress is a lonely road before it becomes a crowded one. In the beginning, nobody is going to clap for you. Your family might think you're crazy, and your friends might pull away because your growth makes them feel insecure about their own stagnation. This is where the inner work counts. You have to be okay with being misunderstood for a while.

You aren't "changing" you are uncovering the person you were always supposed to be before the world told you to play it small. The money, the titles, and the success are just the "receipts" for the internal shifts you've already made.

Fix the person, and the progress will take care of itself. Stop asking for permission to be great. The marketplace is waiting for you to decide who you are.



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-  CIDB Grading
-  Labour Services (UIF)

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Careers That Still Make Sense In Today's Economy

BY LISA DU TOIT | IMAGE CREDIT: CANVA

There is no use in pretending that the economy we grew up with still exists. Over the last few years, we have watched traditional industries shrink and "guaranteed" jobs vanish overnight. For many South Africans, the career ladder didn't just get harder to climb, the wall it was leaning against was taken down. We are living through a period where technology is moving faster than our ability to regulate it, and where our infrastructure is being rebuilt from the ground up.

In this environment, "playing it safe" is a trap. If you are waiting for things to go back to the way they were, you are waiting for a ghost.

The careers that still make sense in today's economy are not defined by fancy titles or air-conditioned offices. They are defined by necessity. They are the roles that keep the lights on, the food growing, the data secure, and the people healthy. These are the "Essential Pillars" the jobs that a country cannot function without, regardless of how the stock market behaves or what the latest tech trend is.

This article is not about chasing the next "big thing." It is a sober look at the skills that provide genuine leverage. It is about moving away from the noise and positioning yourself where the demand is permanent. If you want security in 2026, you won't find it in a contract; you will find it in your own indispensability.

Let's look at where the foundation is being laid.

1. THE ESSENTIAL BEDROCK (HEALTH & FOOD)

These are the "Old Faithful" roles. As long as humans exist, we will get sick and we will get hungry. But in 2026, these roles have a high-tech edge.

- **Specialized Doctors & Nurses:** General practitioners are great, but the money and security are in Specialization. We are talking about ICU nurses, oncology specialists, and geriatric (elderly) care. South Africa's private healthcare sector is starving for these skills.
- **Pharmacists:** They have become the "Community Frontline." In many areas, the pharmacist is the person people trust more than the hospital for chronic care management.
- **Agri-Tech Farming:** Farming isn't just about soil anymore; it's about yield. People who can use drones and data to grow more food with less water are the new "Kings of Agriculture."

2. THE INFRASTRUCTURE GUARDIANS (ENERGY & TRADES)

South Africa is rebuilding itself. Every time the lights go out or a pipe bursts, the value of these professionals goes up.

- **Renewable Energy Technicians:** If you can install, maintain, and "bridge" a solar system to the national grid, you will never be out of work. This is the ultimate 2026 trade.
- **Master Artisans:** We are talking about Precision Welders, Millwrights, and HVAC (Aircon) Specialists. These are the hands that keep the factories running. You cannot "download" a person to fix a conveyor belt.
- **Logistics & Supply Chain Managers:** From Checkers Sixty60 to international shipping, the "Last Mile" is where the economy lives. If you know how to move goods from Point A to Point B without losing money, you are a hero.

3. THE DIGITAL FORTRESS (TECH & SECURITY)

In 2026, if your business isn't digital, it doesn't exist. But being digital makes you a target.

- **Cybersecurity Architects:** This isn't just "IT." This is digital warfare. Companies will pay almost anything to the person who can stop a ransomware attack from freezing their bank accounts.
- **AI Integration Specialists:** Don't fear the robot, be the person who programs the robot. Companies aren't looking for people to "do the work" anymore; they want people who can set up AI to do the work for them.
- **Data Interpreters:** We have too much information and not enough meaning. If you can look at a spreadsheet and tell a CEO why they are losing customers, you are worth your weight in gold.

4. THE HUMAN CONNECTION (SERVICES & STRATEGY)

As the world gets more automated, the things that make us human become more valuable. Empathy, negotiation, and complex judgment cannot be coded.

- **Mental Health Professionals:** The "hustle" of 2026 has brought a massive wave of burnout. Corporate wellness and private therapy are seeing record demand.
- **Compliance & ESG Consultants:** Big companies now have to prove they aren't destroying the planet to get loans. They need specialists to audit their "Green" and "Social" impact.
- **Digital Business Managers:** The rise of the "Solopreneur." Thousands of small business owners need a "Right Hand" to manage their operations, staff, and digital presence remotely.

CONCLUSION

The truth is, the economy doesn't owe anyone a living. It is a cold machine that only rewards one thing: value.

We have spent this article looking at the sectors that are still standing not because they are lucky, but because they are necessary. Whether it is the technician wiring a solar grid, the pharmacist managing a community's health, or the developer securing a bank's data, these people have one thing in common: they solved a problem that the world couldn't ignore.

If you are at a crossroads in your career, the path forward isn't found by looking at where the money was, but by looking at where the "pain" is. Every challenge South Africa faces from energy and logistics to food security and digital safety is actually a door opening for someone with the right skills.

Security in 2026 isn't a permanent desk in a high-rise building. Security is the knowledge that if you lost your job today, you have a "stack" of skills that would make five other companies want to hire you tomorrow. It is about becoming a person of value in a world that is tired of empty titles.

The "Marketplace" is always moving. You can either be a spectator watching it pass you by, or you can be a builder who helps shape what comes next. The era of the passenger is over. It's time to take the wheel.

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BY THEO SIBIYA | PHOTOGRAPHY BY CROWN OCT CLOTHING

Crown Oct Clothing: Weaving Legacy Of Luxury

“We are building a proudly African label that can complete at a global stage”

Crown Oct Clothing wasn't just founded to make clothes; it was founded to make a statement. In a world of fast fashion and mass-produced trends, Crown Oct stands as a beacon of excellence, symbolizing confidence and individuality. Born from a deep-seated passion for high-end design, the brand carries a bold mission: to build a proudly African luxury label capable of commanding respect on the global stage.



“WE ARE BUILDING A PROUDLY AFRICAN LABEL THAT CAN COMPLETE AT A GLOBAL STAGE”

The Antidote to the Ordinary

The modern fashion market is often saturated with items that lack soul and originality. Crown Oct addresses this "emotional gap" by returning to the roots of luxury-craftsmanship. By focusing on limited, well-crafted collections, the brand ensures that every piece emphasizes quality over quantity and meaning over momentary trends.

Beyond the Fabric

Crown Oct serves the bold: the creatives, the professionals, and the leaders who view their wardrobe as an extension of their identity. These are individuals who are unapologetic about standing out. By combining a high-end luxury aesthetic with a narrative of power and prestige, Crown Oct does more than sell garments, it builds an emotional connection, turning customers into lifelong brand advocates.



CROWN OCT SIGNATURE T-SHIRT

The Vision for 2026 and Beyond

The journey is only beginning. The long-term vision is clear: to position Crown Oct as a globally recognized powerhouse. With plans to collaborate with premium partners and expand into bespoke accessories and lifestyle products, the brand remains committed to its core pillars: exclusivity, high standards, and the celebration of self-belief.

Our Products

- Luxury Streetwear and Fashion apparel
- Limited-edition clothing collections
- Custom and collaborative fashion pieces

Get in touch with Us

- ✓ Call / WhatsApp us
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Our Customers

- Fashion-forward individuals
- professionals
- startups, and Creatives who value exclusivity, confidence and quality

Follow Us: @CrownOctClothing    

Call | WhatsApp Us at: 079 877 2824
Email: crownoctexclusive@gmail.com

The New Language Of Love: *Why 'Local' Is The Ultimate Valentine's Gesture*

"This year, I'm making a case for "The Slow Romance."

BY OUR LIFESTYLE EDITOR



Let's be real for a second: nobody actually wants another generic, plastic-wrapped rose from the petrol station. We've all been there, and honestly? We deserve better. Especially now, in the thick of the first leg of 2026, when we're all working our tails off, Valentine's Day shouldn't feel like just another chore on the to-do list.

It's about ditching the mall crowds and finding something that actually has a soul. In 2026, the real "flex" isn't how much you spent, but how much thought you actually put in.

Gifts with a Pulse

There's something about unboxing a piece from a local designer—take a brand like Crown Oct, for example. You can tell someone actually sat there and obsessed over the stitching. It feels heavy. It feels intentional. When you give someone a gift like that, you aren't just handing over "stuff." You're saying, "I know your style, and I went looking for this just for you." That beats a mass-produced box of chocolates any day of the week.

Skip the Set Menu

Is there anything less romantic than a crowded restaurant with a "Valentine's Special" and a 90-minute limit on your table? No thanks.

This year, find a spot that's a bit of a secret. Maybe it's that boutique guest house you've seen on your feed but never visited, or a quiet sunset picnic with a view of the skyline. Romance is about the vibe, not the price of the three-course meal.

Don't Forget Your Own Damn Self

Can we please normalize buying ourselves something nice for Valentine's? If you've been eyeing those handcrafted earrings or that local leather bag, just get it. Call it a "congrats for surviving January" gift. Supporting a local creator while treating yourself? That's the ultimate win-win.

"Luxury isn't about the label on the outside; it's about the heart put into it on the inside."

The Bottom Line

If you're still hunting for the perfect gesture, look around your own neighborhood first. Our local makers are doing incredible things right now. Find them, support them, and give your person something they'll actually want to keep.



Happy Valentine's, darlings. Make it count.

How To Build A Life That Supports Growth: Habits, Structure, And Routines

BY SCOTT WILLIAMS

Most people don't struggle because they lack ambition. They struggle because their lives are noisy, rushed, and reactive. By the time the day is over, there's nothing left to give to growth. You wake up already behind.

You spend the day responding to everything. And at night, you promise yourself, "Tomorrow I'll do better." Tomorrow comes. Same cycle. Growth doesn't fail because people don't want it badly enough. It fails because the way life is set up makes growth hard.

This is about changing that setup.

Growth Starts With the Way Your Days Are Shaped

We like to think growth comes from big decisions. In reality, it comes from ordinary days. If your days are chaotic, growth becomes something you try to squeeze in "when you have time." And that time almost never comes.

A life that supports growth has a quiet direction to it. Not pressure. Direction. You don't wake up asking, "What must I do today?" You wake up knowing the kind of day you're meant to have. That alone removes a lot of stress.

Habits: Small Things That Slowly Change You

Habits are not exciting. That's the truth. They don't give instant results, and they don't look impressive. But they change who you are over time.

A habit is simply something you do often enough that it becomes part of you. Reading a little every day doesn't feel powerful. Writing a page doesn't feel like progress. Walking regularly doesn't feel like transformation.

But months later, you realise: you think more clearly, you express yourself better, your body feels different and your confidence has quietly grown. The mistake people make is trying to build too many habits at once. You don't need ten habits. You need a few that you can return to even on bad days.

Structure Makes Life Feel Lighter, Not Heavier

Structure sounds strict, but it's actually comforting. When your days have no structure, you carry everything in your head. You're constantly deciding what to do next, what to ignore, and what you're failing at. Structure removes that mental weight. It doesn't mean planning every minute. It means giving your day a loose shape.

For example:

- mornings for thinking or creating,
- certain hours for focused work,
- evenings for slowing down.

You stop fighting the day. You start moving with it.

Routines Are What Hold You Together When Life Gets Busy

Habits are individual actions. Routines are how those actions fit into your life. Routines are especially important when things get messy, when work piles up, when money is tight, when motivation disappears. A simple routine gives you something solid to return to. A morning routine doesn't need to be perfect.

It just needs to help you arrive in your day instead of being thrown into it. An evening routine helps you close the day instead of carrying it into tomorrow. These routines don't trap you. They ground you.

Conclusion

Growth isn't loud. It doesn't announce itself. It doesn't happen all at once. It shows up quietly in calmer days, clearer thinking, better choices, and a growing sense of direction. You don't need to force yourself to grow. You need to shape a life that makes growth feel possible. Once the structure is there, habits settle in, routines carry you, and growth becomes something you live — not something you chase.



Are you hosting a **special someone** this Valentine Weekend? Let's help you take care of the cleaning part...



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