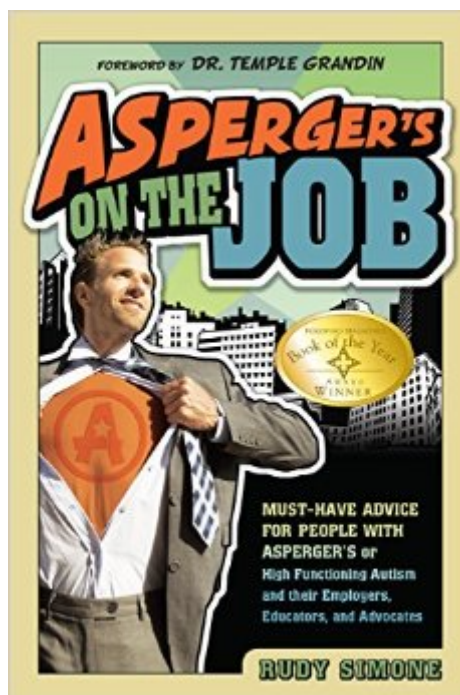


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# Asperger's On The Job: Must-Have Advice For People With Asperger's Or High Functioning Autism And Their Employers, Educators, And Advocates



## Synopsis

Up to 85% of the Asperger's population are without full-time employment, though many have above-average intelligence. Rudy Simone, an adult with Asperger's Syndrome and an accomplished author, consultant, and musician, created this insightful resource to help employers, educators, and therapists accommodate this growing population, and to help people with Asperger's find and keep gainful employment. Rudy's candid advice is based on her personal experiences and the experiences of over 50 adults with Asperger's from all over the world, in addition to their employers and numerous experts in the field. Detailed lists of what the employee can do and employers and advocates provide balanced guidelines for success, while Rudy's Interview Tips and Personal Job Map tools will help Aspergians, young or old, find their employment niche. There is more to a job than what the tasks are. From social blunders, to sensory issues, to bullying by coworkers, Simone presents solutions to difficult challenges. Readers will be enriched, enlightened, and ready to work together!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There's a lot of material written for Parents and for Children on the spectrum, but very little for the Baby Boomer generation who were diagnosed late in life. This is the book that's been missing. I found myself nodding and grabbing a highlighter (even though I've NEVER done this at home) because, what's immediately clear is that HE UNDERSTANDS!! I'm being talked to and given useful information and insights into my behaviour (and how others perceive my behaviour) that I've never heard before. The following examples are from Chapter Four: "Bluntness, Perfectionism and that famous Asperger Arrogance", but the entire book is like this: written with humor and

friendliness. Every chapter has a section: "What the employee can do:" where thoughtful and reasonable suggestions are presented (Example: "Curb your urge to inform unless you are being asked for advice or information. No one likes a know-it-all. ..."). That section is followed by "To employers and advocates:" in which he counsels your boss (Example: "Don't say they complain too much or shut out their idea because it was put across in a blunt, tactless manner. Listen to what they say, not how they say it."). I have Asperger's and this is the best, most useful book I've found. And since I also have ADHD, you should understand how thorough my search was.

Don't let the "easy to understand" writing, or the simple, yet effective, organization of this book fool you. It is enlightening, informative, and incredibly helpful for educators, employers and those on the spectrum. I teach a high school transition program largely populated by older students with Aspergers/Autism. I have read numerous books in search of bettering my understanding of how my students relate to the work place and how I can better provide them opportunities to succeed. I wish I had discovered this book first. From office arrangement to lighting to appropriate dress to initiating a conversation to scheduling the work day to listening to, to, to....there are over 100 "AHA!" moments in only 156 pages. After reviewing it, my district bought additional copies for other teachers, and some of the employers I work with have purchased copies for their department managers. I guarantee, once read, you will read it again. And, you not only see your students, your employees or yourself in differently, you will KNOW your students, your employees or yourself differently.

This is a fine introduction to its subject. It's well-organized, readable and can be finished in a couple of days. It will certainly help people with AS navigate the hazards of the world of work, and also seize its opportunities. But its major impact should be on employers and colleagues of Aspies. They are the ones who really need to educate themselves, instead of continuing to make work miserable for these valuable employees, whether through incomprehension or deliberate targeting and harassment. The main reservation is that the section on bullying---a serious, even deadly scourge of workplaces and schools---is rather short (also the whole book), but it's enough to make the point. Rudy Simone is among the dedicated people heightening understanding of Asperger's Syndrome, an evolving field with profound implications for the economy, education, law, public health and civil rights. A major breakthrough is approaching!

I found this book well-organized and convincing; every chapter includes realistic information and

useful pieces of advice and requests for HR staff members and employers. Since the author herself has Asperger's(AS), I suppose she understands quite well how hard it is for Aspergians(people with Asperger's Syndrome) to find their suitable jobs. And at the same time, I realized something in common between Asperger's on the Job and Asperger's Syndrome & Employment written by Sarah Hendrickx. Both of them includes lots of experiences Aspergians have been through. Not all of them are negative, but I think the most challenging or difficult thing Aspergians have faced is socializing because I know most Aspergians suffer from chronic unemployment all over the world. Most Aspergians have found it extremely tough to put up with flexibility, change, noisy environments, and subtlety which NTs(neurotypical people) can cope with. And the striking difference between NTs and Aspergians is likely to widen the gap. By showing us specific examples of AS, I would say both Rudy Simone and Sarah Hendrickx tried so hard to convey AS point of view to employers and HR staff. Let me put it this way; their books are a lot more satisfying than typical job hunting guides. For NTs, job hunting guides sold everywhere will do, while they won't always be helpful for Aspergians. Therefore, Asperger's on the Job is a must read to prevent ignorance, misunderstanding and prejudice against Aspergians. A whole bunch of employers still aren't aware enough of Asperger's, that's why.

This book is an easy read with useful tools for all people. It provides job descriptions and necessary skills needed for different careers, with an emphasis on a person's strengths and how those strengths can be essential for certain types of career paths. The information provided by the interviews, whether from people with a diagnosis of Asperger's or not, is insightful. The book can be used for all people, not specific to those on the spectrum, as well as all employers wishing to be sensitive to employees that do not fit within the "typical" box. The book initiates insight and self reflection which may be a useful strength building tool for any teenager/young adult/or adult looking for a career change, that does not fit "within a box."

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