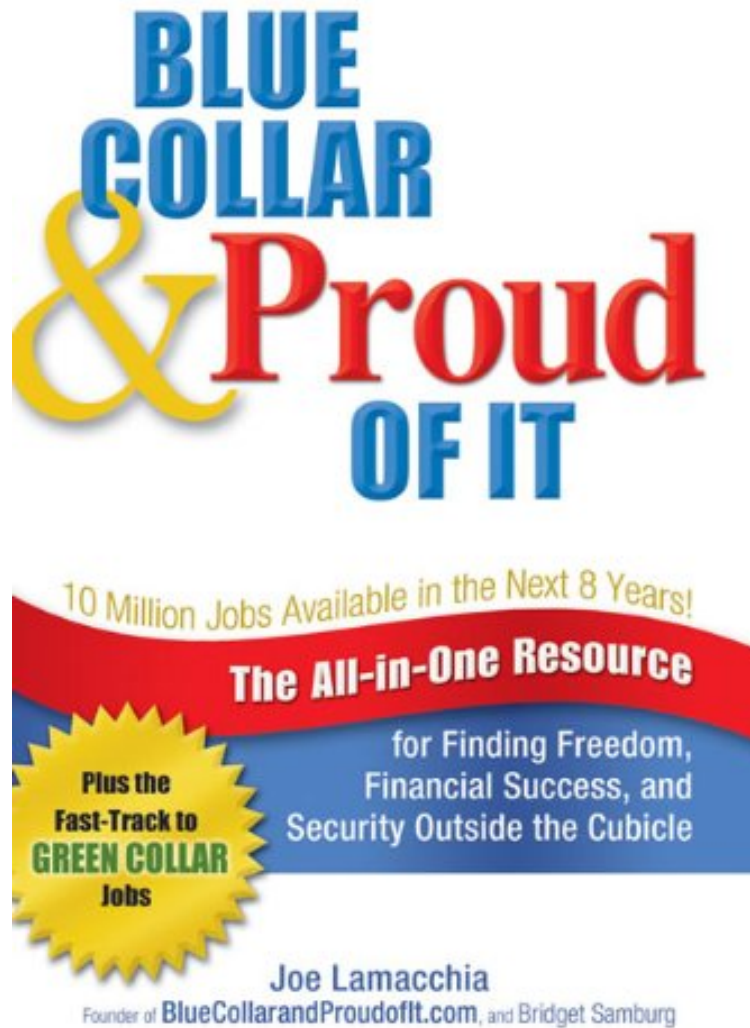


(Mobile pdf) Blue Collar and Proud of It: The All-in-One Resource for Finding Freedom, Financial Success, and Security Outside the Cubicle

Blue Collar and Proud of It: The All-in-One Resource for Finding Freedom, Financial Success, and Security Outside the Cubicle

Joe Lamacchia, Bridget Samburg
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Joe Lamacchia, Bridget Samburg : Blue Collar and Proud of It: The All-in-One Resource for Finding Freedom, Financial Success, and Security Outside the Cubicle before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blue Collar and Proud of It: The All-in-One Resource for Finding Freedom, Financial Success, and Security Outside the Cubicle:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What are you waiting for?By LarryThey are the electricians that

wired your home, the automotive technician that fixes your car, and the women that weld submarines in Connecticut, railroads in Oregon, and work on hybrids in San Francisco. These blue collar careers can be a choice that you feel good about as opposed to a fallback option. Blue collar workers are looking to be challenged also, and want to succeed professionally; they just love doing it with their hands and outside the office cubicle. These are the thoughts of Joe Lamacchia in his book "Blue Collar Proud of It" (with Bridget Samburg). Joe goes on to explain that he has nothing against Shakespeare, but adds that you don't need an English degree from a 4 year university if you are interested in landscape design. In his book, Lamacchia tells us that blue collar workers built the United States, and continue to build and rebuild it every day. He adds that "we are the glue that holds the community together, the people you call when your car breaks, your roads are full of potholes, and your faucet is leaking. We are America's backbone, and we are proud of it". Joe points to the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimating that there may be up to 40 million job openings (depending upon economic conditions) for workers entering the workforce without a bachelor's degree for the period 2004 to 2014; that there are presently more than 4 million students in vocational or technical programs, and that half of all high school students are involved in vocational programs on some level. He adds that it is time to stop turning our backs on the blue-collar jobs that have built nations, and that it is time for parents, teachers, businesses, and the community wake up and see the benefits and contributions made by blue-collar workers. Having been a blue collar worker the majority of my life and enjoying a successful career in the automotive industry, this book cuts right to the core of it all. Not knowing what to do after high school, I entered the military where I developed an even deeper passion for working on cars. Like Lamacchia, I too had difficulty focusing in high school and didn't test well, even in the service. I loved the years and experience the military gave me, but I was in an office setting the majority of my military career and wanted out, while my superiors were constantly trying to talk me out of pursuing my passion to become an automotive technician and stay in the service. But I knew there was more to life than that cubicle; so soon after leaving the military, I enrolled in a community college's CTE program and got the skill sets necessary to compete in this industry. The 30+ years I have been in the automotive industry have been some of the most memorable and rewarding times in my life. This industry has opened up some wonderful doors also, to where I now have the opportunity to counsel and teach those individuals pursuing that "blue collar" path as the Automotive Professor at a community college's CTE program in the southwest. Joe's testimony is a wonderful confirmation that there is another road to success for those of you looking for it. The opportunities discussed in "Blue Collar Proud of It" are just a sample of the many jobs available for those looking for security outside of the cubicle, or for those looking for an alternative to the years and cost of schooling that would be necessary at the university level. But you need to be willing to do the research, make the informed decisions, counsel with people in the know, work as hard as you can, and follow your dreams. Maybe you are one of those people looking for a change, or you are just starting your career. Are you that person in the cubicle with your engine idling, just waiting to strip your gears because you have run out of patience with the boss, the routine, and the paperwork? Maybe you have always had a passion for working outside, or working with your hands building or making something. You have thought about a career change or maybe you are just out of high school and beginning your career, but don't know where to start, or for that matter, where to turn. I would recommend that you put the brakes on and take the time to read Joe Lamacchia's book "Blue Collar Proud of It", where he shares success stories of trades people from many walks of life. His book may give you the jump start you need as he gives his personal insight to succeeding as a blue collar worker, and a guide to schools, apprenticeships, and post secondary training programs; along with chapters dedicated to "Green-Collar America", "This Is Women's Work, Too", and "The Blue-Collar Savings Plan". So what are you waiting for; a new career may be waiting just for you. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Informative and easy to read. By Kindle Customer Good book, bought it for a class. First half of book is content reading and the rest is lots of data and information, state by state, about CTE and Blue Collar work, which is very informative. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. No BS! By Mark J. O'Leary I have known the author of Blue Collar and Proud of It for nearly 20 years. This book is not some pie-in-the-sky, power-of-positive-thinking nonsense--it is the real thing. Joe speaks with authority on this subject because he has lived it himself. The basic premise is so obvious that many people miss it: not everyone can go to college, or needs to in order to succeed. There are too many people wasting precious resources and time on an "education" that doesn't actually advance their career. The resources available to such people today are greater than they have ever been. This book is one of those resources.

The All-in-One Resource for Infrastructure Jobs, Green Careers, Reliable Blue-Collar Work, and More! Not everyone is suited to a white-collar career or wants to get the four-year degree that these jobs typically require. But that doesn't mean you have to turn your back on a great salary, exciting work, and a profession that commands respect. Joe Lamacchia is proof. After graduating high school, he said no to college and found personal and professional success as the owner of a thriving landscaping company. He also started BlueCollarandProudofIt.com, a resource for people who want to find work in the skilled trades. Blue-collar workers build and maintain our bridges, keep our cars running, fix our plumbing, and provide vital services to every home. That's why Lamacchia calls these 'necessary jobs.' Most blue-collar work simply cannot be outsourced to foreign countries and it's often recession-proof. As Baby

Boomers retire, blue-collar industries are experiencing workforce shortages because there aren't enough well-trained people to fill all of these jobs. That is, until now . . . Blue Collar and Proud of It gives you the information you need to pursue a stable, enjoyable, well-paying job; one that makes a difference every day in your community. Whether you're just out of high school, have been a victim of downsizing, or are looking for a new direction, Lamacchia explains all the options, outlines the necessary training, and delivers true stories of people who have made their own way in the blue-collar world. Discover a wealth of opportunities, including: carpentry; machinery; roofing; electricians; truck drivers; green construction; Broadband technicians; welding; ironworkers; solar panel installation; water conservation

I know Joe Lamacchia and he is the real deal. This book is a great read. --Stan Davis, author of Future Perfect (Stan Davis) About the Author Joe Lamacchia is a forty-three-year-old father of five and owner of a \$2 million-landscaping company in Newton, Massachusetts. Having never gone to college himself, he is hoping to change the prevailing mind-set that to be successful you need a college education. He has been interviewed on NPR and has been quoted in The Boston Globe, The Boston Herald, and The San Francisco Chronicle. He speaks at high school assemblies and veteran's groups. He began his website, BlueCollarandProudofIt.com, to provide resources and support for anyone looking into a blue collar job. www.bluecollarandproudofit.com. Bridget E. Samburg is a reporter and contributor to magazines and newspapers including The Boston Globe, Brill's Content, and Yankee Magazine. She collaborated on The Long Road Home by ABC White House correspondent Martha Raddatz, and The Survivors Club, the upcoming book by Ben Sherwood, former executive producer of Good Morning America. Bridget lives in the Boston area. Excerpt. copy; Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. In case you haven't guessed from the title of this book, I am blue collar and proud if it. I love to dig in the dirt, can't sit still, and totally enjoy being outside all day long. I run a million-dollar landscaping business outside of Boston in an upscale suburb. I worked my way up the ladder; have five children, a beautiful house, and a wonderful wife; and I enjoy taking vacations with my family. I read the Wall Street Journal religiously and as many books as I can, and most of my TV watching consists of the National Geographic Channel and business shows. For years I've been watching as my kids and other youngsters are told by their teachers and their guidance counselors that if they don't go to college, they won't succeed. I didn't go to college, even though my family expected me to go. Frankly, I wouldn't have made it to graduation, and I know I would have hated it. I respect college and the people who go, but for some reason, our society has a hard time accepting that college simply isn't for everyone. I love learning and I haven't stopped learning, but college isn't the only way to learn. In July 2003, I started a website called BlueCollarandProudofIt.com because I was tired of watching guidance counselors, teachers, parents, and society in general push thousands of kids out of high school and into college, while many of them went kicking and screaming. I've watched as they went off to schools with no direction and no interest. Inevitably they started feeling worse about themselves in college all while accumulating huge amounts of debt from the loans they took out to pay for their schooling. Consider that the average cost of college in 2008, including room and board, for in-state students at a four-year state institution was \$14,203, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. And if you were headed to a private university, the average annual price tag was \$38,400. Then, just think, if you drop out, you still owe that money, plus you have to start over and figure out what you want to do. That's a lot of money, especially if you're unsure of why you're borrowing it in the first place. I want more people to think about the alternatives and realize that you can be proud about going into a trade. A blue-collar career can be a choice that you feel good about as opposed to a fallback option. This is why I started my website: to provide some wisdom and encouragement and to add a different voice to the chorus of people who will tell you what to do with your life. This book persuades you to follow your own personal desires and tells you how to get the education or training you need, which might not be the education your parents and teachers are pushing you to get. I've been amazed at how many people have e-mailed me from all over North America, excited to know that someone is advocating for them. I've heard from teachers who are happy to hear someone say that we should be proud of the kids who choose to make something of themselves in the trades, and I've heard from students who are afraid to tell their parents they don't want to go to college. I've heard from adults who spent years in the white-collar world only to ultimately find their passion in blue-collar work. Blue-collar work isn't about avoiding the responsibilities that people think come only with white-collar jobs. We blue-collar workers own nice homes and run lucrative businesses. We, too, are looking to be challenged and to exceed our own expectations. We want to excel professionally. But we also love working with our hands or in nontraditional settings. How many people are sitting at a desk right now, tucked away in a cubicle, feeling boxed in and miserable, wishing they could be doing something physical instead? Blue-collar workers are everywhere, and they are working incredibly hard to build this country, rebuild their communities, and more. We have factory workers operating equipment worth millions of dollars with technical skills that surpass the level of expertise that many people have in white-collar jobs. Why don't we take these tradespeople more seriously? It's about time we respect the skills they've acquired and the trades they are in and the work they do. We've treated many industries as if they are invisible, but we need to start paying attention to the construction industry, to automotive technicians, and to electricians, among scores of others. I don't have anything against Shakespeare, but you don't need to get a degree in

English at a four-year university if you're interested in landscape design. You don't need to be a communications major at a cost of more than \$30,000 a year if all you've ever really wanted to do is become a renovation mason. We don't all want to sit in cubicles, pushing paper, working in middle-management jobs, traveling around the country for business meetings. If that's what you want, that's fine. But if you don't want that kind of life, why go to college and prepare for it? Wall Street jobs sound sexy and being a lawyer is impressive, but what if it's not for you? There are incredible jobs available with amazing potential, challenging opportunities, and great pay. President Barack Obama has laid out a plan to create 2.5 million new jobs by January 2011, largely through rebuilding roads and bridges and refurbishing and modernizing schools across the country. In Los Angeles alone, a recent tax change was approved to fund a \$1.2 billion overhaul of the city's deteriorating commuter rail, Metrolink. These are all blue-collar jobs waiting to happen. What's more, the renewable or alternative energy industries are estimating the creation of anywhere from 3 to 10 million new jobs in the next ten years. Blue-collar workers built the United States, and we continue to build and rebuild it every day. We fix it, move it, and keep it operational twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. We are the glue that holds the community together, the people you call when your car breaks, your roads are full of potholes, and your faucet is leaking. We are America's backbone, and we are proud of it. copy;2009. Joe Lamacchia, Bridget Samburg. All rights reserved. Reprinted from Blue Collar and Proud of It. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, without the written permission of the publisher. Publisher: Health Communications, Inc., 3201 SW 15th Street, Deerfield Beach, FL 33442