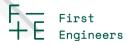
EMPLOYEE RETENTION 101

HOW TO RETAIN AND ENGAGE TOP TALENT





01

Why Retention Management Should Be Your Top Priority

02

Retention Pitfalls and How to Overcome Them

03

Establishing a Connection with Your Employees

04

How to Support Your Employees' Development

CONTENTS

05

Employee Retention Program Must-Haves

06

Five Bullet-Proof Tips for Keeping Your Employees



CONTENTS

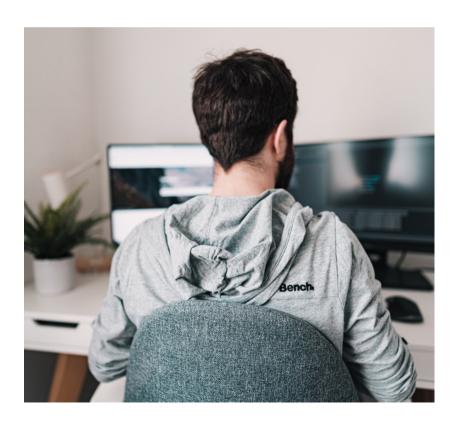
WHAT DRIVES DECISION MAKING



Recruiting top talent is one thing, but retaining top talent within your organization is an entirely different battle. Think of it like this the recruitment process is like the first few dates, while the retention management process is a full-blown marriage. During the recruitment process, both parties are excited to learn more about the other as they toy with the idea of being a good match and begin to imagine how the relationship will evolve. And after a thorough recruitment process, the match has been made, and the real work of maintaining curiosity and engagement begins.

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It is when organizations fail to put in the work that employee retention becomes an issue. But what is it that makes an employee decide to walk away? Is it just one bad day, or is it an accumulation of many small things that drive them over the edge? An even more important question is what makes an employee want to stay? Does it all come down to salary? Or is it more nuanced than that? The following chapters shed light on some troubling statistics, common mistakes, and best practices to connect with and retain your top talent.





NORMAL VS. ABNORMAL EXITS

When it comes to a growing organization, it is natural for employees to come and go, right? Right-ish. While functional employee turnover (i.e., the natural exit of employees) is completely normal and healthy for an organization, dysfunctional turnover is, well, dysfunctional. What separates the two? The latter, which tends to be the primary focus of employers, is characterized by the regular exit of high performers and/or those with hard-to-replace skillsets.

From lost profits and efficiency to a fragmented culture, there are a number of troubling statistics outlining the repercussions of low employee retention. To make matters worse, these statistics may even be too conservative given the often hidden and unaccounted for costs of the time spent recruiting, the potential burnout and low morale of current employees in light of being short-staffed. To put things into perspective, burnout is the cause behind nearly 50% of employee turnover, a statistic that may be amplified in light of the COVID pandemic. With retention implications of this magnitude, neglecting to incorporate hidden costs such as burnout, results in an oversimplified understanding of retention costs.



Thankfully, many organizations grasp the magnitude of retention and its profound implications, which is the reason why a staggering 87% of HR professionals consider employee retention as one of their highest priorities. But with nearly one in three employees leaving within the first forty-five days, the window to set a precedent for employee retention is short and anything but straightforward.



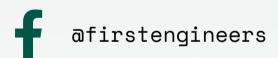
However, most troubling is the fact that a majority of organizations do not have any sort of retention strategy to help them fight these statistics. Essentially, there is a degree of cognitive dissonance between knowing retention is important and actually doing something about it.

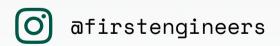
Overcoming the cognitive dissonance hurdle entails that you gauge your current retention levels and then do your best to understand its drivers. Once you have done this, you can start reaping the benefits that low turnover (i.e., high retention) has to offer, such as the opportunity to increase profits four-fold, retain latent company and industry knowledge, and boost overall morale. That is why the following chapters will guide you through retention strategies and shortcomings so that your organization can reap the benefits of functional turnover and mitigate the impact of low employee retention

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