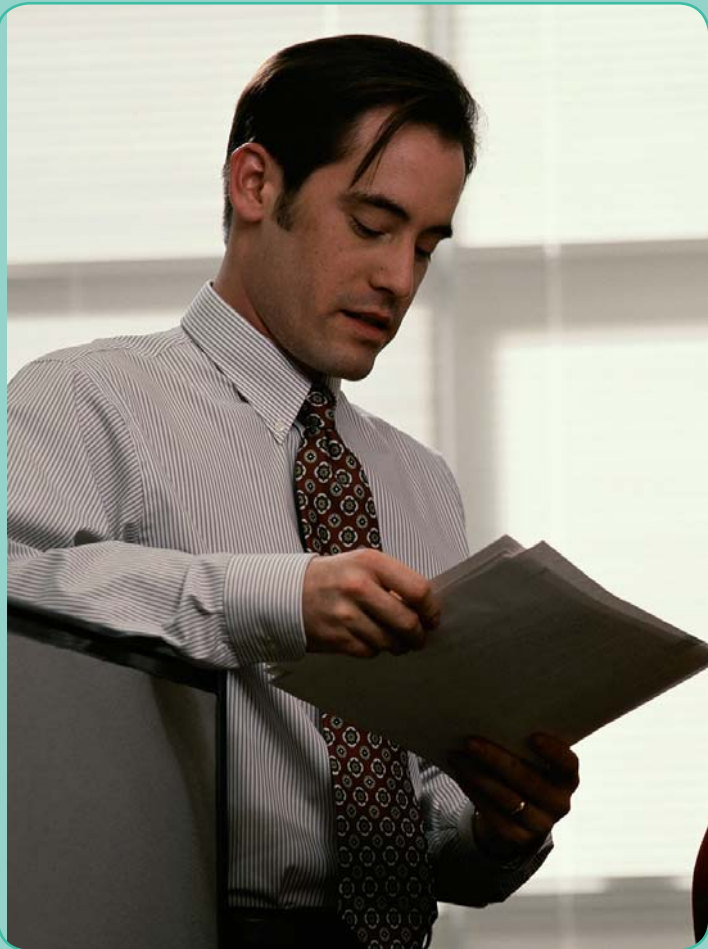


How Accurate is Your CV?

A recent report has uncovered a staggering statistic: 84% of people in the UK believe that untruthful job applications are commonplace – although 95% of those questioned considered it important for people to be totally honest with the information they provide when applying for jobs. Does this highlight a need for employers to check applicants' details more thoroughly?



The study carried out by **BackgroundChecking.com**, suggests many potential employees will either exaggerate or include inaccurate information on their CV and job application. According to other research, as many as 50% of UK workers accept this as the norm when applying for jobs. Exaggeration is commonplace, particularly in the areas of personal interests (43%), previous responsibilities (38%), reasons for leaving a previous job (38%) and previous salary (30%)..

Many small businesses don't even ask to see a CV when hiring, a practice which recruitment specialists agree can open employers up to all sorts of problems. Apart from the obvious inability to do the job, there is also a risk of potential discrimination claims and difficulties trying to terminate the person's employment.

Employers have a duty to prove they have followed the correct procedure when employing staff – this includes checking each candidate's CV. A spokesman for **BackgroundChecking.com** added: "Many candidates and fraudsters rely on the fact that prospective employers do not check the information on, or omitted from, their CVs and applications, or discussed in their interview."

In the rush to fill vacancies quickly, it's likely that many companies may overlook these details, but the advice from the experts is clear: if you're thinking of employing staff, always ask to see an up-to-date CV and always carry out as many checks as possible to verify the content. That includes checking references where appropriate.