



# From the Desk to the Boardroom

Your Path to Relevance



For young accountants, the world of work can sometimes feel like a whirlwind of spreadsheets, client calls, and compliance deadlines. But what if you could take all those day-to-day tasks and use them as stepping stones to something bigger—something more impactful? The truth is, **the skills you're building now aren't just about keeping the books balanced; they're about positioning yourself as a future-ready professional** who's indispensable at the boardroom table.

### Evolve from Number-Cruncher to Strategic Advisor

It starts by looking beyond the numbers. Of course, technical skills matter—mastering IFRS, financial modeling, and risk management are essential. **But to really grow, you need to connect those skills to the bigger picture.** How do your company's financials inform strategic goals? How can you help executives make smarter, more sustainable decisions? Start seeing yourself as a partner in decision-making, not just a keeper of financial records.

### Embrace Technology as a Growth Lever

**Automation, data analytics, and AI aren't just buzzwords; they're tools that can make you more efficient, accurate and valuable.** Instead of fearing that tech will replace your role, consider how it can **free you up to focus on higher-value work.** By using advanced analytics tools to identify trends, or leveraging automation to streamline routine tasks, you position yourself as a forward-thinking accountant who adds strategic insight—someone no board would want to do without.

### Commit to Lifelong Learning and Continuous Development

Accounting standards evolve, regulations shift, and global markets transform. To stay relevant, commit to constant learning. Take courses in corporate governance, get certifications in emerging areas like sustainability reporting, and dive into workshops on leadership and communication. **The more you learn, the more you'll see opportunities to connect financial expertise to strategic planning and corporate governance.**





## Expand Your Network and Learn from Others

Professional growth isn't just about what you know—it's about who you know and how you learn from them. Build relationships with mentors, join industry forums, and stay active in professional associations. Don't just attend events; ask questions, share your experiences, and be curious about the paths others have taken. These **connections provide not just knowledge, but opportunities to contribute to larger discussions and be noticed by those who make key decisions.**

## Build Soft Skills that Elevate Your Leadership Potential

Being effective in the boardroom isn't just about presenting accurate numbers; it's about communicating insights in a way that resonates. Hone your storytelling skills, sharpen your ability to listen and respond thoughtfully, and **practice breaking down complex financial data into clear, actionable strategies.** The ability to inspire confidence, provide clear direction, and foster collaboration will help you stand out as more than a finance expert—you'll be seen as a leader.

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