

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [My experience with HF in the last 11 years.](#)

Pr0m3th3us - July 4, 2026, 6:07 am

Where to start...

I have been on HF for over 11 years now. Looking back at my post history, I was active when I first joined in 2015, slowly tapered off for the next two years, and then made a single thread in 2019 before dropping off completely. I couldn't honestly tell you why, I just don't remember. I can honestly say, though, that back then, I contributed nothing useful to the forum. Like your buddy who smokes your weed and then bounces home to play COD.

Fast forward to 2024. I was working a job where I basically sat around doing nothing until someone explicitly brought me something to work on. Sometimes I would go a whole week without seeing anyone. Because I was so incredibly bored, I started drinking a bit at work, and then more when I got home. That boredom is also what brought me back to HF. I had a lot to catch up on...the Bytes system was totally new to me, the political landscape was crazy so the old politics section was lit up, and I also discovered I was locked out of my Coinbase account, which sucked (no clue if anything was even in it).

The Shenanigans & Group Hopping

I quickly got myself into some HF trouble because [Deany](#) and I were basically shitposting in the contest threads all day long. We did it so much that Omni actually changed the rules to 1 post per entry (sorry, Omni). We exploited the system, can you blame us? So unfortunately, I still bear that mark of 2,138 posts in the contests area :(.

Moving on, it was right around this contest fiasco that I joined @Chrome@'s new(?) group, "Pulse". Immediately got shit on by old users like @Sox@ and his whole gang of misfits. I still have no clue what that was about, but oh well. Eventually, the group was closed, and I joined another... Secret Society. I can't say much about this, but I was very excited to start doing what the group did. I was just getting things set up when BAM! @Zelos@ pulled an exit scam. Another group down.

Suddenly I was groupless. Omni ran a flash sale on lifetime Uber, so naturally I hopped on that (I was previously L337 lifetime). I tried to join a couple of other groups and finally got into Warriors, a long-standing group I am still proud to call my first real HF "group".

Real Life Struggles

At some point in 2024, I was officially diagnosed with a shitty medical condition that I've had most of my life but never wanted diagnosed. I was given meds, which I am 100% against (fuck big pharma). I won't say much more due to OPSEC, but it's a mental condition, and it sucks. I hated my job, I was drinking vodka to help with the boredom, and then putting away about 15 beers at home, which obviously didn't help. I even made a shitpost thread [Getting Hammered Tonight](#). Eventually, I quit that job. I bounced around a couple of other jobs, but nothing substantial, and eventually had to quit those too due to my medical stuff.

I've been unemployed for a little over a year now. The trade I'm certified in is fairly niche and dying off, so there aren't a lot of prospects and honestly, I just didn't want to do it anymore. I applied to

probably well over 400 jobs during this time with absolutely nothing to show for it.

After drinking heavily every day for years and spending over \$400 a month on alcohol, I finally decided I needed to tone it down. Over the past 4 months or so, I've been tapering myself off. Currently, I'm down from 15+ drinks to 6-8 a day. The threads by [Rsynced](#) have helped a lot with that process, so thanks man.

The IT Resurgence & The Brotherhood

During this year of unemployment, I have had a massive resurgence in my thirst for IT knowledge, and 100% of the credit for that goes to HF. Mostly from user [Bastille](#) (miss you ya French bastard, wish you would come back). I've never formally worked in IT, but I built my first computer at 15 and have been around them my whole life. I bought a cheap Dell laptop locally for 20 bucks, installed Parrot OS, and made it my daily driver. I use it every day now, learning more and more, tweaking the system exactly how I want it.

One day I was on HF talking to [Z](#), and I think he was also drunk because he invited me to The Brotherhood. This group has been amazing and is a huge part of my recent resurgence. Honestly, it's half the reason I'm writing this thread lol.

Since joining, I've made a couple of threads for a Brotherhood contest (you can find them on my profile if you're interested). I've also had a couple of users ask me to make some tutorials for them, so I jumped on that—huge thanks to [Weekend Offender](#), [cl0udzz](#), and [DeathPenalty666](#). The CyberSec series by [Mastercarder](#) also inspired me. Since I am halfway talented at writing, I decided to start my own series called {Hacks, Scams, and Exploits}. You can check those out in the News and Happenings section.

Looking Forward

Months ago, I started looking into entry-level IT jobs and noticed almost all of them require a CompTIA A+ cert. I started taking practice exams once a week and usually scored just barely above passing, but sometimes failed. I did the math: between the price of the two tests, potential retakes, study materials, and the stress...it was cheaper and easier to just use @Undead@'s bypass exam service. I finally saved up the money, and the deal was done. Thanks bro.

I then used Claude to build a resume specifically designed to bypass all those damn AI resume filters. I applied to only 10 fucking jobs and already landed 2 interviews in less than a week. Wild.

I will continue to use Hack Forums and contribute as much as my small brain can. I am incredibly thankful for this place. Thank you [Omniscient](#), [Charlie Sheen](#), and the whole gang.

TB12 - July 11, 2026, 8:46 am

Enjoyed reading this. I'm sorry for your struggles with mental health. I've dealt with issues I was diagnosed with since I was 14, it has gotten better but I understand the struggle.

Good on you for toning down the drinking! I know that can't be easy and one side of my family had a bunch of alcoholics. I never had issues with drinking but before I quit I was smoking weed way too much for a few years and it drained me of all motivation.

Happy to hear you landed those interviews I hope they go well!

Jamika - July 11, 2026, 12:19 pm

I was actually wondering about that because I didn't notice you as an active member at first, even

though you write great posts.

Your story is truly inspiring, my friend. I wish you all the best, and I hope you're able to quit alcohol completely.

Pr0m3th3us - July 11, 2026, 10:30 pm

(Jul 11, 2026 08:46 AM)TB12 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Enjoyed reading this. I'm sorry for your struggles with mental health. I've dealt with issues I was diagnosed with since I was 14, it has gotten better but I understand the struggle.

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Yea it sucks but im trying some other things here soon that may help also. Mainly i have noticed i have to stay focused. Once i let my mind wonder i get fucked lol.

(Jul 11, 2026 12:19 PM)Jamika Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I was actually wondering about that because I didn't notice you as an active member at first, even though you write great posts.

Your story is truly inspiring, my friend. I wish you all the best, and I hope you're able to quit alcohol completely.

Thanks you i appreciate that. I dont think ill quit alcohol entirely though, i just need to stop abusing it really. Im not a fan of liquor but i really enjoy some wine with dinner often. The beer i can just drink for hours and thats my main problem.

.Magic - July 12, 2026, 2:33 pm

HF is life, sometimes I go away for a few months only to miss it and come back <3

Raijin - July 13, 2026, 4:24 pm

I don't drink alcohol anymore. I cut it out completely except major holidays.

Eran - July 14, 2026, 11:21 am

Very great read, I remember writing my testimonial thread when the award was still a thing and it was similar. Yours was more in depth tho.