



Roads to success with Scott Henderson

The Home Depot has unlimited opportunities available for growing a successful career. In this series, we're highlighting the different roads to success that our associates have taken. Recently, the myApron news team caught up with Inventory Planning & Replenishment (IPR) Analyst Scott Henderson at the Store Support Center in Atlanta.

How did you get started with The Home Depot?

In early 2005, I was an 18-year-old college freshman at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque and working at a sandwich shop. The human resources manager from the nearby Home Depot store came in one busy afternoon and saw me calmly working through a long line of hungry customers. After paying for her sandwich, she handed me her card and suggested I apply for a job at The Home Depot. A few weeks later, I was putting on an orange apron at Store 3501. A few years later, when I was promoted to department supervisor (DS), I decided to go back to school for a graduate degree in business with the help of The Home Depot's tuition reimbursement program.

For my current role, District Manager Cliff White helped me connect with D23 Merchandising Vice President John Sommers during a store walk. John told me about Inventory Planning & Replenishment as a great area of the Company to grow in. I began the application process that week and after several phone and Skype interviews, I was on my way to Atlanta.

What was the first milestone you reached that made you decide to make your career in an orange apron?

I was promoted to Special Services DS in 2008 as I was just finishing my undergrad degree and was still unsure about what I wanted to do when I grew up. Over the next few years, this role would partner me with some great fellow associates, and give me some significant stretch projects that challenged me to grow my knowledge and skills every day. This role ultimately set the stage for everything that followed.

Who has had the biggest influence on your Home Depot career and why?

Across two stores and most of my years as an assistant store manager (ASM), I was lucky to have Vanessa Munoz as a store manager. Vanessa taught me everything I know about merchandising and supported me 100 percent in developing my career with The Home Depot while going to school. She was an example every day of many of our core values.

What's your advice to others who are interested in growing their careers within the Company?

Never turn down an opportunity or challenge. Many of my biggest wins at The Home Depot came from adding one more thing to my plate and would give me an opportunity to prove myself just a little bit more and further build my skills and career.

Any interesting stories you can share?

You never know who you'll meet or get to know at a Home Depot. Six years ago, I was working the Service Desk when one of the main characters from the television show "Breaking Bad" came in to open a Home Depot credit card. I didn't even recognize him until I asked what kind of work he did.

More recently, as an ASM at Store 3511 in Los Lunas, New Mexico, I had the honor of being asked by several community members/frequent customers to be a county judge in a blind tasting barbecue competition. Not only did I get to spend an entire morning eating some of the tastiest food around, but a team of associates won several categories.

Please share some "favorites" with us.

- **Favorite hobbies:** Traveling, reading and tubing down the Chattahoochee River
- **Favorite movies:** Jurassic Park, Airplane! and Star Wars
- **Favorite sports:** Golf, dodgeball and the San Francisco 49ers football
- **Favorite music:** Bruce Springsteen, and pretty much anything from the 90s
- **Favorite food:** New Mexican

Need help growing your career? Visit [myOrangeLadder](#), our career development site designed especially for Home Depot associates.

What do you think of this story? We'd like to know. Include [#GrowMyCareer](#) in your post on the [Warehouse community](#), or like and share your thoughts in the comments box below.

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Scott was working at a sandwich shop when one of his customers, a THD human resources manager, impressed with how he handled a line of hungry customers, suggested he apply for a position at his local store. The rest is history!



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