

How to become a Tour Manager

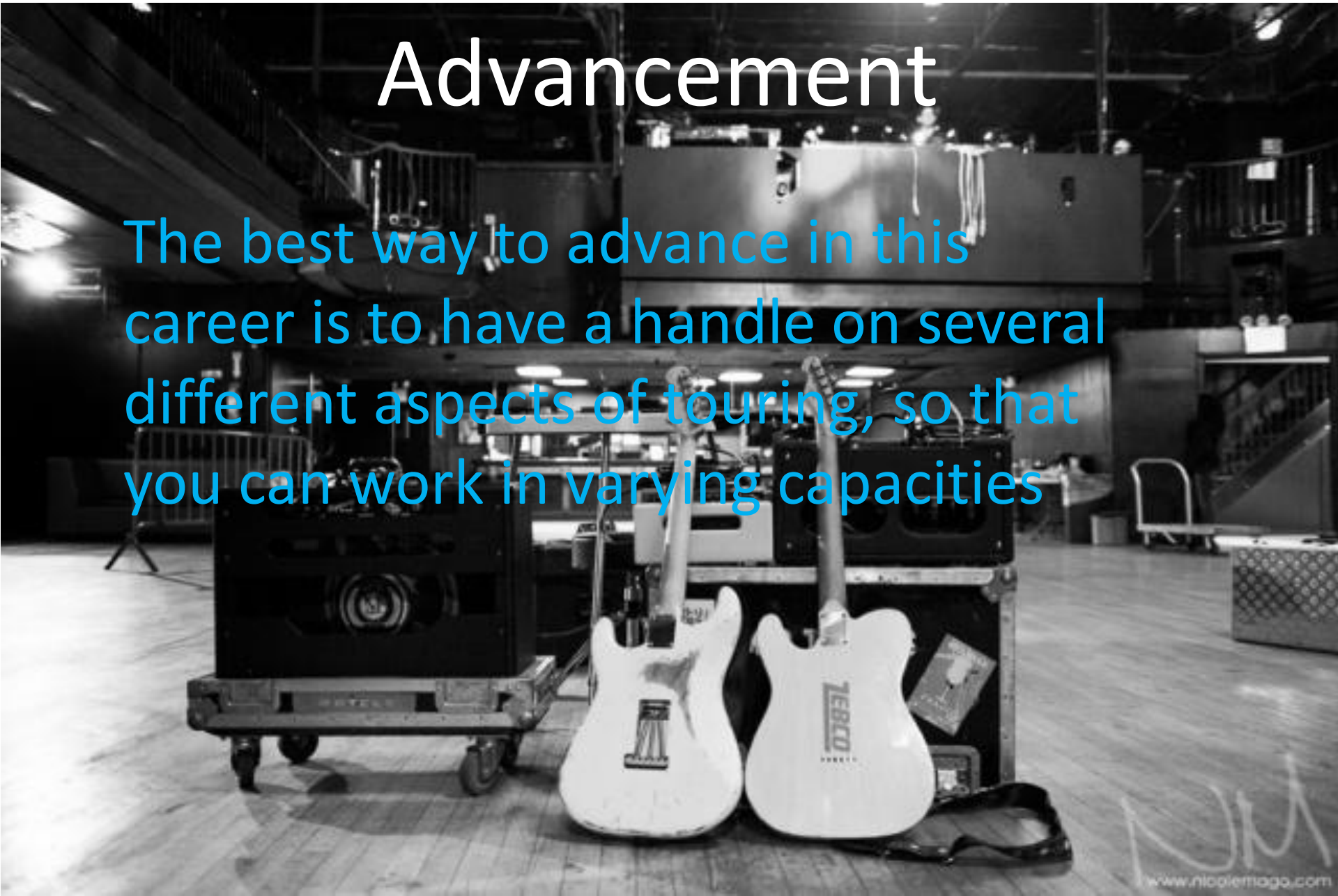


Career Description

The job of a Tour Manager is to make sure that life on the road runs smoothly for everyone involved. This means getting the band safely to venues and hotels, managing money coming in and money going out, and dealing with Promoters and Venue Managers

Advancement

The best way to advance in this career is to have a handle on several different aspects of touring, so that you can work in varying capacities



Education & Training

The background of the slide is a photograph of a large stack of books. In the foreground, one book is open, showing its pages. The books are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and abundance of knowledge.

Read everything you can and above all, find a mentor to help guide you. College would be great to learn people and life skills.

Experience & Skills

. In general, Tour Managers have experience in one or more music industry careers before heading out with a band




Lifestyle

“I generally work at least 8 – 9 months out of the year. I’m a workaholic and need projects to keep me motivated.”

Employment



Like so many music industry careers, networking and word-of-mouth recommendations are the best way to get a job as a Tour Manager

The image features a close-up of several stacks of US dollar bills, including \$100 and \$20 bills, resting on a light-colored wooden surface. In the foreground, a piece of white paper with a torn edge is placed on the wood, with the word "Earnings" printed in a large, black, serif font. The text of the slide is overlaid on the image, providing context for the visual elements.

Tour Managers are paid week-by-week, and payment varies based on the tour budget, length of tour, stature of the band, etc. Usually a Tour Manager gets a base salary, plus expenses (meals, for example), and sometimes a per diem for incidental expenses that come up on the road.

Earnings

Getting Started

- Start at the bottom. Get experience in different facets of the live music industry.
- Network. Get the word out that you're available to work as a Tour Manager.
- Be willing to work for free or very little.
- Brush up your budgeting skills.
- Stay responsible! You're the one who needs to see that everyone gets to the next location safely and on time.