

GET THE JOB

Considering Remote Work?

Remote work was only a niche part of the overall employment landscape until the pandemic.

Initially deemed necessary to limit the spread of COVID-19, work-from-home options became attractive to many people who'd never considered this arrangement before.

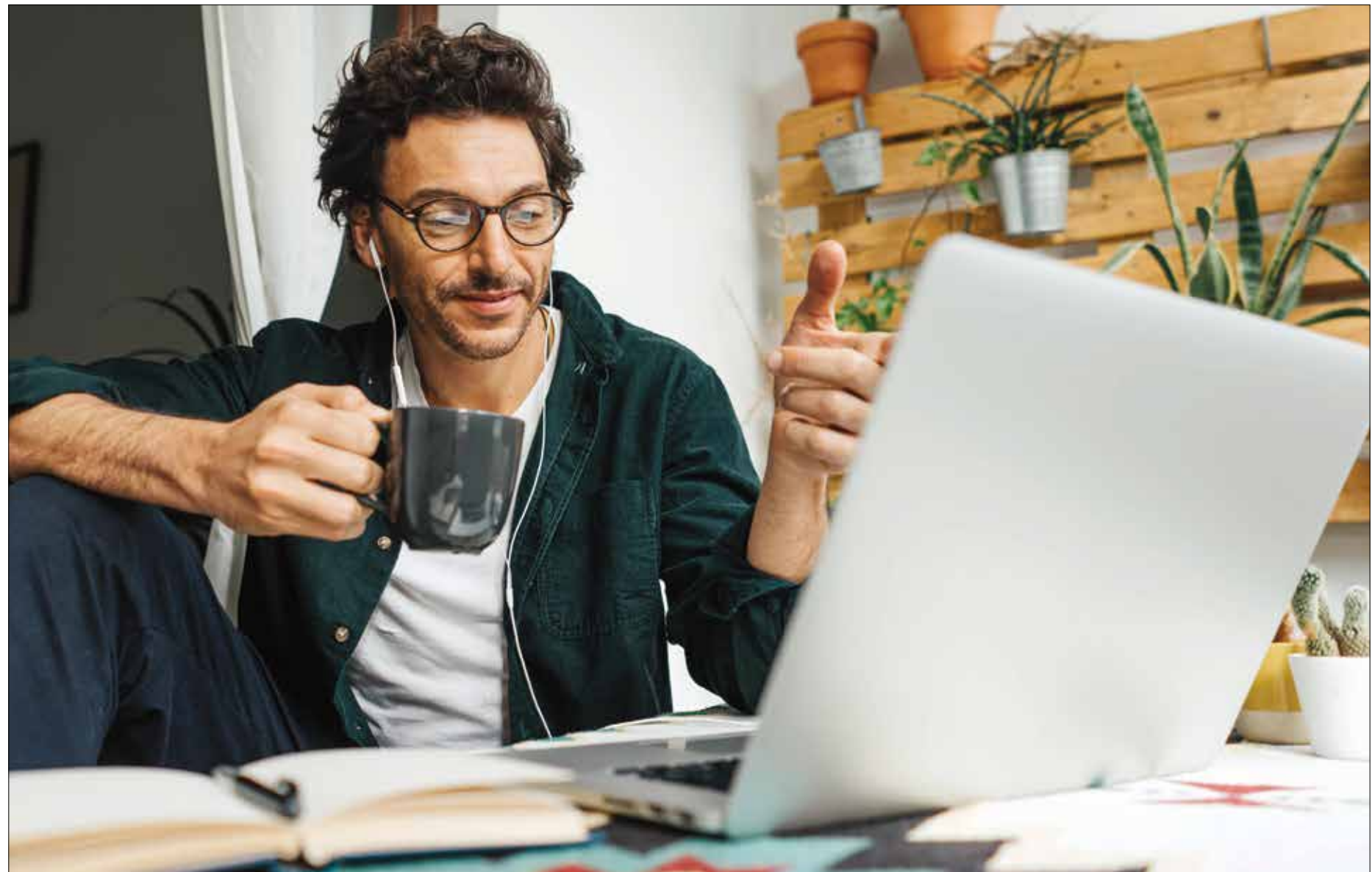
Companies have since begun bringing employees back to the office, but some workers are suddenly unwilling. At the same time, a tight job market led more companies to hire remote workers.

Data experts at Ladders now estimate that more than 25% of professional jobs in North America are remote. Still, this kind of work isn't for everyone. Here's a look at the pros and cons:

REMOTE WORK PROS

For those who enjoy remote work, increased productivity is often cited. More than 85% of adults in one We Work Remotely survey said they felt most productive while working outside an office environment. Some 65% of those polled felt that a work-from-home environment would increase their productivity.

Other advantages cited by remote workers included sav-



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ing time and money on commuting, parking and lunch. Remote workers aren't required to relocate, and can create an individualized work environment. They say their communication skills improved, and so did their overall health since many began integrating exercise routines into their everyday schedule. The general feeling of independence was also

often mentioned.

REMOTE WORK CONS

As with most things, there are also disadvantages associated with remote work. They include a sense of loneliness and the tendency to burn out because of overworking. Lines between work and family time can be easily crossed, and suddenly employees are working

every day. Some miss the sense of camaraderie associated with offices, and the creativity that impromptu in-person interactions can spark.

MAKING IT WORK

If you apply for and earn a remote position, be sure to create a work environment that is comfortable and encouraging. This means different things to

different people. Some might be very productive in their pajamas on the couch, while others need a separate office environment within their home. Be sure to communicate often with your supervisors and fellow employees. In fact, over-communicate, since it's harder to keep track of what everyone is working on when you don't share the same office space.