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A 2023 Guide to Kitchen Staffing During the Back of House Labor Shortage

The restaurant industry has been struggling with a shortage of chefs and other back of house staff for several years now.



Back in 2019, TouchBistro's Annual Industry Report found that seven in 10 restaurants in the U.S. were experiencing a labor shortage. This report also revealed that the labor shortage was specific to back of house staff, with more than half (52%) of full-service restaurants experiencing kitchen staffing shortages. Worse still, it seemed that the higher the annual revenue for a restaurant, the more they struggled with labor shortage across multiple roles. For restaurants with an annual revenue of \$2 million or more, 39% reported a line cook shortage, and 25% said they didn't have enough prep cooks and chefs.

And the problem has only gotten worse in the wake of the pandemic. As of June 2021, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the restaurant industry was still 1.5 million jobs – or 12% – short of pre-pandemic levels. And like previous worker shortages, the problem is more pronounced among back of house staff. In fact, a recent survey by a restaurant-staffing firm found that a whopping 25% of back of house restaurant workers have left the industry entirely.

While these stats put real numbers on a grim reality you might already be facing, rest assured there are strategies you can put in place to help you deal with kitchen staffing issues caused by the back of house labor shortage. Read more to find out how.

Source: Dana Krook, TouchBistro

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Tipping Point

Consumers in the US love to hate the tip. The American style of tipping has long been controversial, and people complain about leaving an extra 20% at the end of a meal. Yet the practice remains firmly entrenched in dining culture. And it is spreading to other sectors.

Check out this in-depth look at the past, present, and future of tipping in US by the team at Restaurant Business.

Source: Restaurant Business

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What are the Benefits and Challenges of Buffet Service?

Buffet service is a popular food service style that offers customers a variety of choices and convenience. However, it also poses some challenges and risks for food service operators.



This article explores the benefits and challenges of buffet service in your operation, and how to train your staff and manage your resources effectively.

Are you planning to incorporate buffet service for Easter operations? Consider the information provided in this article.

Source: LinkedIn

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Does a Uniform Influence the Performance of Workers?

Uniforms come in many forms. In some instances, employees are issued specific clothing featuring the name or logo of the company, and in other instances they are asked to wear standardized attire they select and purchase themselves, such as black pants and a white shirt. Studies on the subject indicate both positive and negative effects of the way uniforms in the workplace affect performance and productivity.

Improved Business

Employees who all dress alike are easily identified as employees in a business. This makes it easier for customers to seek out employees when they are looking for assistance, which leads to increased profits

for the company and job security for the workers. This translates to a greater sense of loyalty toward the company and elevated levels of employee performance. Is it time to update your uniform policy? Continue reading for more information.

Source: Lisa McQuerrey, Chron

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