10 hot IT skills for 2013 - Check out the IT skills that will be in high demand in 2013.

1. Programming and Application Development

Technology and software are great ways for companies to improve productivity, lower costs and create better Web presence. Companies need skilled people to develop IT solutions for them. Skills that are in high demand at the moment include Java, J2EE and .Net.

2. Project Management

More technology projects means more project managers are needed. Experience is even more important than qualifications in this area.

3. Help Desk/Technical Support

New systems mean firms need more help desk people to handle the increase in calls for product support , customer care and helpdesks.

4. Security

Security has long been a concern of IT leaders, and demand for specialized security professionals is growing as the task of safeguarding systems and data becomes increasingly complex.

5. Business Intelligence/Analytics

Big data is one of the top priorities for many companies, but getting the right people to analyze all that information can be challenging. The best candidates have technical know-how, business knowledge and strong statistical and mathematical backgrounds -- an uncommon mix of skills.

6. Cloud/SaaS

Companies need cloud computing experts as they move from traditional data storage centres to using cloud computing i.e. resources delivered over a network such as the internet.

7. Virtualization

Virtualisation experts enable companies to save resources by running virtual servers on top of physical servers and enabling them to quickly adapt to changing business needs.

8. Networking

Networking expertise remains a perennial top 10 most-wanted skill. IT leaders say they still need networking professionals who have solid experience.

9. Mobile Applications and Device Management

As consumer and business use of smartphones and tablets expands, employers are looking for workers who can handle the demands related to the proliferation of such devices.

10. Data Center

Server/data center management and storage and data backup remain high on the list of IT skills that employers are seeking.