

Jim is ready to start the second week of his new job. So far, everything is going great! He is the new kitchen manager for his favorite restaurant. This job includes handling all of the purchasing and receiving functions for the kitchen. This is a great opportunity and he knows it. He has worked here for several years, and he knows some of the problems in the kitchen, from purchasing to the problems with his bussers. But today is the day that this kitchen will change.

It is a Monday morning and Jim knows that his old boss always started Mondays with an inventory of all the food in the restaurant, so he feels confident that the inventory numbers are accurate. Therefore, he heads into work ready to start the week. He has to place the order today for Friday delivery. He knows that there is a major basketball tournament in town and that they will probably be a lot more busy than usual.

Jim is pleasantly surprised to find a parking lot full of cars when he arrives, so he hurriedly parks his car and runs into the kitchen to help the cooks through this rush. He is expecting a delivery of fresh tomatoes this morning. His tomato supplier is pretty dependable and always arrives between 6:30 and 7:00 am. Since it is already 6:30, Jim leaves the door unlocked so the tomato guy can get in.

After about 10 minutes, Jim and his cooks send the last order out of the kitchen. Just as Jim is finishing up on the line, Justin, the tomato guy arrives—on time, as usual. Justin pushes several large boxes of tomatoes into the store and walks into the cooler to drop off the tomatoes. He walks over to Jim and they chat for a few minutes. Justin hands Jim the invoice. Jim signs and Justin is on his way.

Jim has a busy day ahead. He needs to place his order and he needs to get next week's schedule ready. He lost 3 cooks and 2 bussers when the old kitchen manager was fired, so he also has a few interviews planned for today. In addition, the order that he placed on Friday will arrive sometime today.

Jim decides to work on his order first. He runs a report on the POS that indicates what was sold last week. When he compares this to what he ordered last week, he finds that he has a real gift for determining exactly what is needed, so since he is expecting to be extra busy, he decides to double what he ordered last week. The breakfast rush is starting, so Jim jumps back on the line to help get the orders out. Wow, it is already 10:00 and Jim still has a lot to do.

Jim starts to work on the schedule. His cooks are not too happy about it, but they are all scheduled for overtime next week. This is because of the cooks that were lost during the transition. As Jim is working on this schedule, he is glad to see the delivery truck arrive. Jim watches as the delivery guy pushes in box after box. The nice thing is that the delivery driver puts it all away, so Jim doesn't have to do much more than watch. He takes a look at last week's sales information while the driver is unloading everything. When the driver finishes putting everything away, he brings an invoice over. Jim signs it and gets back to his schedule.

Jim works on the schedule for a few minutes and his applicants for the kitchen position begin to arrive. Jim is thrilled to learn that they are each available to start immediately. So, without hesitation, Jim offers them each a job, and his scheduling problems are solved. With this problem behind him, Jim looks at his watch and realizes that it is almost time for lunch, so he prepares to head back to the cook's line for the afternoon rush.

Well, another Monday lunch is over, so Jim just needs to finish up his to-do list and this Monday is over. Jim and his best friend, Steve, have been discussing the food orders. Steve works for a large food supplier. Steve drops in on Jim to discuss the food orders for his restaurant. They sit down and Jim tells the cook to make a couple of burgers and fries. They may as well eat while they are talking. After discussing the latest on all of their mutual friends, Steve tells Jim that it would be awesome if he could get this order, since the commission on a customer of this size would really help Steve and his family. Steve reminds Jim that they are best friends and he would never cheat him. He promises that he will get him the best prices on everything, so they finish their lunch and they have a deal. They seal it with a handshake. Then they head back to the kitchen, where Jim shows him the order that he was planning to place before heading out. Steve assures him that he will handle it and the owners will be thrilled because they are going to save a lot of money on food.

Feeling pretty good about his day, Jim decides that he is almost ready to go home. He takes a final look at his schedule and files the paperwork for the order received today. Then, he takes a walk around the kitchen to make sure that everything is ready for dinner tonight. After this is done, Jim walks around and locks the walk-in freezer, the liquor closet, and the back door. He tells everyone goodnight and heads home, pleased with the productivity of his day.