



What should I wear to my Job Interview?

Take time in advance to think about what you will wear to your interview. Don't kid yourself, first impressions are EVERYTHING. Make sure your interview outfit is clean and pressed, and that your shoes are immaculate. Pay close attention to your personal hygiene and dress appropriately. Unless you are applying for a job as a fashion director, a job interview is not an opportunity to demonstrate your devotion to fashion. Dress conservatively and keep make up and accessories to a minimum.

Men

Fortunately, men's fashion is relatively straightforward. Using a few basic pieces, it's easy to put together an outfit that is stylish, professional, and tasteful. It is always best to be over dressed than under-dressed. If are going for a job in a professional environment, dress in the way you have seen others do in this type of job. If you have a nice tie that is professional in appearance, then wear it. Shirts should ideally be in plain business colours, and never underestimate the importance of clean shoes and fingernails. These are the two areas that can really make you stand out ... for the wrong reasons.

Excellent personal hygiene goes without saying, but be particularly careful with aftershave and body sprays. It can be very distracting to interview someone who smells like they are drenched in fragrance. Avoid scruffy bags and backpacks and instead find a stylish document wallet to hold extra copies of your résumé, qualification credentials, and any portfolio items or samples of work you may wish to take with you. You can slip your keys, phone, and wallet inside for the interview to avoid bulging pockets.

Women

While everyone knows that short hemlines and plunging necklines aren't acceptable for a job interview, wearing an inappropriate dress that's also a bright, flashy colour simply makes this situation worse. So, be mindful when choosing your clothes. If you're going to wear a daring colour, do it tactfully, making sure the overall design of your outfit is especially conservative. It's a good idea to avoid short hemlines and skin-tight fits altogether.

Keep make up and perfume to a minimum and avoid bright colours. For tips, look online for professional looks. If wearing a heel, leave at home the ones that belong in a nightclub and instead opt for something mid height. Open toe shoes are never a good idea for an interview. Never underestimate the importance of clean shoes and fingernails, and if you wear your fingernails painted, opt for a neutral colour (never chipped) or go natural.

Generally speaking, this is another chance to show the interviewer you know the job that you are applying for. If you arrive in an inappropriate outfit, they will immediately assume you haven't done your research. Look on the company website for any photographs that give you a hint of the wardrobe suitable for the industry.