

Interview Apparel

A job interview is your opportunity to make a great first impression on your potential employer. Dressing for success is a big part of the interview process.

If you're wondering what to wear to an interview, the most important thing to keep in mind is that you must look professional and polished. While your interview attire depends on what job you're applying for, no matter what the position, you should come in looking neat, tidy and well-dressed.

A big part of getting a job is making a good first impression, and a big part of making a good first impression is how you dress. While you don't have to spend a lot of money on your wardrobe, putting in a little extra effort will pay off in the long run. Before your next interview, make sure you aren't making any interview attire mistakes. Here's what not to wear to an interview.

I once interviewed a woman in a slinky red dress that was so skimpy, she could barely sit down. 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 color--like red--simply makes this situation worse.

So, be mindful when choosing your clothes. If you're going to wear a daring color, like red, do it tactfully, making sure the overall design of your outfit is especially conservative. And, it's a good idea to avoid short hemlines and skin-tight fits altogether.

Jewelry

Women should avoid dangling earrings and arms full of bracelets, and men should wear little or no jewelry other than a watch and/or wedding band. No jewelry is better than cheap or loud jewelry. When it comes to piercings and tattoos, depending on where you are interviewing, you may want to consider covering your tattoos and taking out your rings

Hats

Don't wear a hat to a job interview regardless of the type of job you are applying for. On a related note, don't wear hoodies or any other type of sweatshirt or sweatpants.

Shoes

Don't wear flip-flops or sneakers. You won't make a good impression. Also avoid really high heels and platform shoes. Closed toe pumps in a neutral color are best for women. For men, slip-on or lace-up dress shoes are the best bet.

Belts

If your pants or slacks have belt loops, wear a belt. It will tie your outfit together. Your belt should match your outfit and/or your shoes and bag.

Pantyhose

The question of whether women should wear pantyhose on a job interview creates a lot of discussion on this site and the answer was overwhelmingly yes.

Hair and Make Up

Less is more when it comes to hair and makeup. Be subtle and don't overdo it with makeup. Keep your hair style simple, as well, and no scrunchies or big hair clips. The same holds true for nail polish. Your nails shouldn't be overly long and your nail polish shouldn't be too bright a color. You don't want the interviewer to even notice your nail color. An example of not accessorizing correctly is the woman who showed up to interview for a job at a company I worked for wearing a bright red dress, matching nail polish, and candy apple red spiked heels.

Perfume and Cologne

Just as you should dress somewhat conservatively during an interview, you should also be conservative with your perfume or cologne. Some people are more sensitive to smell than others. In fact, scent is one of the strongest senses; your favorite perfume or cologne might be the same

scent the interviewer's ex-girlfriend or ex-husband wore. Don't let subliminal negative impact ruin your chances at getting a job. In this case, less, if not none, is better.

This information was found on:

-About.com Job Searching

-Interview Accessories

How to Choose Interview Accessories

By Alison Doyle, About.com Guide