
Dress for Success

You never get a second chance to make a first impression, and to ensure you leave the employer with a positive and lasting impact, dress professionally. Use the guide below to determine what to wear for successful interviews.

- WEAR A SUIT! Even though a suit may not be required for your everyday work attire, you want to dress one step above what you would wear on a daily basis. This generally means wearing a suit. Don't have a suit? It's time to buy one. Can't afford a suit? Borrow one (as long as it properly fits!).
- Pantsuit or skirt suit, wear what you are most comfortable with. If you choose to wear a skirt or dress make sure it is knee-length.
- If you think a suit is too formal for your interview, try a cardigan or sweater over a professional shirt or dress.
- Your shirt should not be too large, small, tight or baggy. Opt for a collared button-down or well-fitting shirt.
- When in doubt, wear neutral colors: black, taupe, beige, brown, blue, and gray are all good options.
- Wear a conservative tie. Avoid cartoon characters, less-than-serious graphics, or theme ties.
- No distracting jewelry and try not to overdo your outfit with accessories – less is better.
- Understand the culture of the company and if you need to remove piercings or cover tattoos.
- Match the color of your socks to your pants, and the color of your belt to your shoes.
- Hair should be clean and styled. Color-treated hair should be kept up to date, and facial hair needs to be groomed/well-trimmed.
- If you wear makeup, your goal is to have a polished look that makes you feel like yourself. Generally, stick with your everyday makeup/skincare routine.
- Well-groomed fingernails. If you choose to wear fingernail polish, be sure there are no chips in the polish.
- Polish/clean your dress shoes. If your interview is in the winter, check your shoes for salt when you get to the interview destination.
- Remember to iron/steam your clothes! If you don't have an iron/steamer, borrow one!
- Your scent should leave the room when you do, so go easy on the cologne/perfume.