Dressing for Success
How to Dress for an Interview
by Alleen Chenoweth, About.com Guide

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An article in USA Today spoke about candidates for jobs wearing jeans, purple sweat suits, and spiky heels or sneakers. Other applicants weren’t afraid to show plaid suit pants and spiked hair. Still others chewed gum or showed up in rumpled clothes with their pants falling down. One reporter even told a candidate with the trousers down below his hips, to “Pull your pants up.” According to the article, the outlandish dress code sent some candidates the job.

Dress Your Best When Interviewing

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TheFashionSpot.com/SmartLook/Work

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In the conservative business climate I worked in at the time, appearances did matter. In other environments it isn’t as important. However, it does make sense to dress your best for the interview, regardless of the dress code at the organization. If you’re in doubt about how to dress for an interview, it is best to err on the side of conservatism. It is much better to be overdressed than underdressed. If you’re not sure, check with the person who scheduled the interview and ask.

According to Kim Zoller at Image Dynamics, 55% of another person’s perception of you is based on how you look. Her dressing for success information gives some tips on how to look your best, without necessarily spending a lot of money. Here’s a quick look at the basics:

Women’s Interview Attire
• Solid color; conservative cut
• Coordinated blouses
• Moderate shoes
• Limited jewelry
• Neat, professional hairstyle
• Not too light makeup
• Spare make-up & perfume
• Hemmed slacks
• Portfolio or briefcase

Men’s Interview Attire
• Solid color, conservative cut
• White long sleeve shirt
• Conservative tie
• Dark socks, professional shoes
• Very limited jewelry
• Neat, professional hairstyle
• Go easy on the aftershave
• Neatly-trimmed nails
• Portfolio or briefcase

More Interview Help:

How to Dress for an Interview
How to make a great first impression.

Job Interview Attire
Hair, and how you’ll dress for an interview...

How to Dress for Success
A quick guide to dressing for an interview.

Interview Etiquette
Interviewing can be even more stressful when you are expected to eat and talk at the same time. Here's how to survive a lunch or dinner interview.

Interview Questions and Answers
The key to successful interviewing is to review those typical interview questions and prepare your answers. Also be ready with questions for the interviewer - here’s a list.

Winning Interview Skills
So, you’ve landed an interview for a seemingly wonderful job! Now what?

Interview Dress
• How to Dress for an Interview
• Job Interview High Fashions
• What Not to Wear for an Interview

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