

Dress for Success

Interview Attire

The clothing you wear to an interview is important! Even though many companies have a relaxed dress code (“business casual”), you are better off dressing conservatively for the interview. Remember that your attire reflects how important this interview is to you. Allow yourself plenty of time to dress and get to the interview so that you will arrive relaxed and calm. Here are some basic guidelines for interview attire:

Men

- Conservative two-piece business suit (solid dark blue or grey is best)
- Conservative long-sleeved shirt (white is best)
- Conservative tie. Avoid wild patterns and colors.
- Dark shoes (black lace-ups are best)
- Dark socks (black is best)
- Shave or trim facial hair
- No rings other than wedding ring or college ring
- No earrings (if you normally wear one, take it out)

Women

- Jacket in solid color with coordinating skirt and blouse.
- Tailored dress pants and matching blouse or pants suit.
- Shoes with conservative heels
- Conservative hosiery at or near skin color (and no runs!)
- No purses, small or large; carry a briefcase instead
- If you wear nail polish, use clear or a conservative color
- Keep your makeup simple and natural (it should not be too noticeable)
- No more than one ring on each hand
- One set of earrings only

Men and Women

- Well-groomed hairstyle
- Clean, trimmed fingernails
- Minimal cologne or perfume
- Empty pockets—no bulges or tinkling coins
- No gum, candy, or cigarettes
- Light briefcase or portfolio case
- No visible body piercing (nose rings, eyebrow rings, etc.) or tattoos

Dressing on a Budget

Limited on your budget for interview clothes? You don’t need to shop at the most expensive clothing stores. Visit your local thrift shop; they have some fantastic buys. Consider borrowing clothes from a friend who is close to your size.

Still unsure about what to wear. Check out these websites:

http://amdt.wsu.edu/research/dti/General_Guidelines.html

<http://www.symsdress.com/>

<http://www.collegegrad.com/jobsearch/Competitive-Interview-Prep/Dressing-for-Interview-Success/>

Or call the Career Center at 707-826-3341 and make an appointment with a Career Counselor!