

Interview Dress Code

The first impression you make on your potential employer is the most important. How you look and what you wear will be vital, so it is important to look professional, even if you are applying for a casual job.

- Be careful not to be scruffy or to overdress for the interview.
- Turning up in jeans and t-shirt will not impress, even if you are attending a job for the building site or with a design/creative agency.
- Do not turn up covered in 'bling'.
- Wearing a tuxedo or cocktail dress will not impress.
- The individual dressed in a suit and tie is more likely to make a better impression than the one in the jeans and t-shirt.
- Dressing for an interview can be a confusing time, because you may try to dress as if you have been given the job. However, this may be viewed as over confidence, be sensible when attending an interview. Your dress code will depend very much on the job you are applying for; When attending an interview you should step your appearance up a notch or two.
- Until you are employed with the company and have an understanding of the dress code, do not wear bright colours or loud ties and socks.
- People will make assumptions based on your appearance before they judge your personality and ability. Therefore invest time and effort in your appearance.
- No matter what you wear, your clothes should be neat and clean.
- Keep your shoes in good condition.
- Your hair should be neatly styled.
- For women: makeup should be subtle.
- Nails should be clean and neat and of reasonable length.
- Dress for the job you want.
- If you aspire to be a manager, dress like managers in your company do.





Do I have to buy a new suit?

- As long as your suit is in good condition and not outdated, you don't have to buy a new one.
- If you do decide to purchase a new suit, buy the best one you can afford and make sure you don't get anything too trendy. You want your investment to last.

What shoes should I wear?

- Wear closed-toe shoes.
- Sandals are never appropriate for a job interview.
- Black shoes match everything (yes, even your navy blue suit).
- Women should not wear very high heels.

Must I buy new shoes?

- No. Shoes you've already worn are fine, unless they are in bad condition or out of style.
- A little shoe polish may be in order here.

What about my nails?

- Your nails should be clean.
- A man's nails should be kept short and a woman's nails shouldn't be excessively long and should be bare or polished in a neutral colour.

I love wearing jewellery. Can I wear it for the interview?

- Modest jewellery is fine, but don't wear large earrings or a thick chain.

What about makeup? How much is okay?

- Don't paint on the makeup. Keep it simple and use neutral colours.

What not to wear

- Flip-flops or Trainers.
- Underwear (bras, bra straps, pants, briefs, boxers, etc.) that is visible. Don't wear any underwear that shows - even if your bra straps match your top.
- Shorts.
- Jeans.
- Skirts that are too short.
- Trousers that are too low-rise or too tight.
- Blouses that are too low-cut or too short - don't show your cleavage

What to wear

• Dress Shirt

Clean and well pressed.

White is the universally preferred colour.

If the shirt is cuffed it should be worn with cufflinks.

Avoid button down collars.

• Suit Trousers

Must match the jacket.

Avoid wearing the same suit if you are invited for a second interview. A second pair of matching trousers is always a good idea with every business suit, if available, as they suffer more wear than the jacket.

• Socks

Should be the same colour as your suit.

• Religious Items

Religious clothing or other items are generally allowed if they are acceptable, by a recognised religion.

