

The first impression you make on a potential employer is the most important one. That's why it's always important to dress appropriately for a job interview. You should dress in a way that is professionally appropriate to the position for which you are applying.

Generally, you want to wear professional, or business, attire. For men, this might mean a suit jacket and slacks with a shirt and tie, or a sweater and button down. For women, this might mean a blouse and dress pants or a statement dress. Whether you are a man or woman, you also want to think about the colors you wear for an interview. Avoid anything too bright or flashy that will distract the hiring manager.

Here are examples of interview outfits for men. Men should always default to wearing a suit.

- Suit in a solid color such as navy, black, or dark grey
- Long sleeved white or color coordinated shirt
- Leather belt
- Tie
- Dark socks and conservative leather shoes
- Little or no jewelry
- Neat, professional hairstyle
- Limited amount of aftershave
- Neatly trimmed nails
- Portfolio or briefcase

Here are examples of what women should wear to a professional interview:

- Suit in navy, black, or dark grey
- Suit skirt just below or above the knee
- Coordinated blouse
- Limited jewelry
- No dangling earrings or arms full of bracelets
- No jewelry is better than cheap jewelry
- Professional hairstyle
- Conservative shoes
- Neutral colored pantyhose
- Light make-up and limited perfume
- Clean, neatly manicured nails
- Portfolio or briefcase

- Avoid loud colors and flashy ties.
- Clothing should be neat, clean, and pressed. Wear deodorant. Don't wear cologne or aftershave. You don't want to smell overpowering or worse, cause an allergic reaction.
- Make sure you have fresh breath. Brush your teeth before you leave for the interview, and don't eat before the interview. Don't smoke right before an interview
- Your hair should be neat, clean, and conservative.