

## Interview Dress for Success Tips

Your clothing and overall appearance should present an image of professionalism. Consider these guidelines as you put together what you will wear to Job Expo or to a job interview:

- Choose clothing you have worn before and are comfortable wearing.
- Check your clothes in advance for missing buttons, frayed cuffs and other repair needs. Make sure you have enough time to dry clean or wash and iron your outfit and have any repairs completed. Everything needs to be neat, clean and ironed.
- Watch for bulging pockets or sagging coat lining.
- Remove price tags from new clothing.
- Pick comfortable shoes. They should be polished and not have rundown heels; shoes that are well cared-for signal “good attention to detail.”
- Hair and nails must be cleaned and groomed.
- Be careful of unnatural hair color.
- Brush your teeth!
- Avoid wearing perfume/cologne as it could be distracting to employers
- No tattoos should be showing.
- Avoid multiple piercings or piercings that would attract undue attention; wear minimal jewelry if you must but the preference is to wear none at all. The “Rule of 10” states you shouldn’t wear more than 10 pieces of shiny jewelry, buttons or buckles. Omit fake jewelry, rhinestone cufflinks, cloth watchbands or novelty tie tacks from your professional dress.
- Leave backpacks in the car/at home; bring a professional portfolio case instead.

### For Women:

- Buy a quality, conservative skirt or pantsuit in blue, gray, beige or black.
- Skirts must be worn at the knee or slightly below.
- Do not wear mini-skirts or any skirt that is form fitting (such as some with Lycra and other stretchy materials).
- Wear flesh colored hose with a skirt.
- A plain light-colored blouse or long-sleeved shirt under your suit jacket or a simple silk or cotton shell in a neutral color.
- Wear professional/comfortable, polished closed-toe shoes.
- Pumps are your best bet – a medium-sized heel (1 1/2 to 2 inches) is appropriate.
- Avoid wearing extremely high heels, boots or shoes with a lot of straps or buckles.
- Use neutral make-up and nail polish.
- Add dashes of color, texture or scarves for creativity.

### For Men:

- A quality suit in a neutral color.
- Have a collar, button-down shirt.
- Use a light shirt with a dark suit.
- Combine a matching silk tie in low-key colors along with your shirt.
- Wear dark business socks.