

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

Research shows that within the first 4-9 minutes of an interview, the interviewer decides whether or not to seriously consider you for the position. To put it succinctly – you never get a second chance to make a first impression! 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 (or undressed). If you're not sure, check with the person who scheduled the interview and ask. The following are some guidelines that will help you project a professional image:

MEN	WOMEN
DO: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wear a dark colored suit, long-sleeved shirt (white is preferable), conservative silk tie, dark socks and dark, shined shoes.• Practice good personal hygiene with only light cologne or none at all.• Cover up or minimize prominent piercings or tattoos	DO: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wear a conservative, dark suit with a coordinating blouse (not low cut) and low heeled shoes (1.5-2 inches high), preferably the same color as the suit.• Wear natural colored hose and always have a spare pair with you.• Practice good personal hygiene, and wear only light perfume or none at all.• Cover up or minimize prominent piercings or tattoos
DON'T: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wear sports jackets or blazers.• Wear flashy or faddish ties.• Wear a lot of jewelry, including earrings.• Have bulging pockets.• Wear sneakers or topsiders.• Use excessive amounts of cologne or after shave.• Carry a backpack	DON'T: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wear flashy, faddish or revealing clothes.• Wear a lot of jewelry, particularly noisy bracelets.• Use excessive or glittery makeup.• Use brightly colored nail polish, or wear chipped nail polish.• Carry a backpack.

One additional tip: Make sure your clothes are well tailored and fit correctly. You can get away with a less expensive suit if it fits impeccably well.

**Have a question about how to dress for an interview or need an opinion on whether or not what you're planning on wearing is appropriate?
Contact the Career Center to set up an appointment with a counselor – 609-652-4650**