

Interviewing

Interviews in the U.S. are primarily done over the phone, over skype, zoom, or in person. In most cases it is important to dress in a professional manner.

Women: You should consider wearing a well-fitted pant suit or a skirt with a jacket. High heels or flats are the preferred shoe. Consider ironing your clothes in order to look professional. It is encouraged to wear neutral shades like black, navy, brown or gray. You should try to carry only one bag. Hygiene is of upmost importance to U.S. employers, so make sure to shower and apply deodorant before your interview.

Men: You should consider wearing a well-fitted pant suit, typically neutral colors with nice, unmarked dress shoes. Your belt should match your shoes. Make sure to maintain your beard or mustache in a clean and neat fashion. Be certain to shower and apply deodorant before the interview.

Other things to consider:

- BE PUNCTUAL. Try to arrive 15 minutes prior to the appointment.
- Always send a thank you note to your interviewer within 24 hours.
- Smile and maintain eye contact. It is important for your employer to see that you are excited to be there and have the opportunity to interview with this company.
- Know important details about the company you are interviewing with and incorporate them into your answers.

What are typical interview questions to prepare for?

- Tell me about yourself.
- Why did you pursue a degree/career in ___?
- What are your short-range and long-range goals?
- What are your strengths and weaknesses?
- What is important to you in an employer?
- Why are you pursuing a job with us?
- Tell me about a time that you exercised leadership in a recent situation.
- Tell me about a time when you worked as a part of a team.
- Tell me about a time that you were under a great deal of pressure. What was the source of the pressure and how did you handle it?
- Why should I hire you?

Tip: Most employers will ask you if you have any questions for them at the end of an interview. They are actually expecting you to have 2 or 3 questions to ask them. Have a few questions planned before the interview to ask. It may be good to look at their website before hand and form your questions around things you saw from the website. It shows you put in extra work to research the organization/company.

Interviewing is your chance to impress the employer!

