

What Not to Wear: 10 Job Interview Clothing Faux Pas By Christine Rochelle

First impressions are everything, and at a job interview with other applicants, sometimes they're all you have. A good first impression can set you apart from the crowd, while a bad impression can send your résumé straight into the trash can.

One of the best ways to ensure you nail that job interview is to focus on making a good first impression with your appearance. By staying on the conservative side of what you wear to the interview, but still letting your personality shine through, you're bound to start off on the right foot.

Before you dress for your big day, take note of these ten things you should never wear to a job interview:

1. Revealing Clothes

Male or female, revealing clothes could offend a potential employer. Button up your shirt to the top, and ladies should be conscious of skirt length.

2. Too Much Jewelry

If you normally wear a lot of jewelry, consider toning it down for your interview to avoid any distractions. Earrings and necklaces should be small and simple, while it's recommended not to wear more than one ring on each hand.

3. Baggy Clothes

The opposite extreme of wearing clothes that reveal too much is wearing clothes that don't fit at all. Your interview clothes should be tailored for a perfect fit.

4. Poor Footwear

There's an old saying that states you can tell everything about a person by looking at their shoes. What does it say about you if you walk into a job interview in sneakers or unprofessional sandals? Be sure to have nice dress shoes that match your interview attire.

5. Hat

There is a reason why your high school teachers always told you to take off your hat in class. Hats are unprofessional and sloppy, so leave them at the door.

6. Denim

Even if you know that the office you're stepping into is casual, stick to professional interview wear. Avoid denim when walking into any workplace - being overdressed is always better.

7. iPod

It may be the norm to walk the streets with your iPod ear buds hanging around your neck, but tuck these away before opening the door to your job interview. You never know who you might run in to in the elevator, so be "interview ready" as soon as you walk in the door.

8. Stained Clothing

Every job seeker has had a bad day where they forgot to iron their clothes or spilled breakfast on their shirt while rushing out the door. Try to avoid this as much as possible by giving yourself enough time to dress properly for your interview, and staying just as polished as you were when you stepped out of your house.

9. Remnants of a Late Night Out

Your future employer will not be impressed by concert wristbands or bar stamps on your hand, so remove any evidence from the killer concert or bar you hit up over the weekend.

10. Graphic T-Shirts

Interview wear isn't as conservative as it used to be, but that doesn't mean you should sport your favorite graphic t-shirt to your meeting. You never know who will be interviewing you, so avoid wearing any shirts that could be too trendy and thus distracting.