What Not to Wear

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A big part of getting a job is making a good first impression, and a big part of making a good first impression is how you dress.
You don't have to spend a lot of money on your wardrobe. Putting in some effort will pay off in the long run.
Here's what *NOT* to wear to an interview.
Everyone knows short hemlines and plunging necklines are not acceptable for a job interview …
Wearing an inappropriate dress that's also a bright, flashy color - like red - simply makes this situation worse.
Be mindful when choosing your clothes. If you're going to wear a daring color - like red - do it tactfully. Be sure the overall design of your outfit is especially conservative. And, it's a good idea to avoid short hemlines and skin-tight fits altogether.
SUIT UP!
A blazer is a good go-to choice for almost any interview, but THINK ABOUT what you wear underneath.
Inevitably, the deep-v formed by the blazer's lapel creates a plunging neckline. If you're going to wear a camisole underneath, make sure it covers you appropriately.
Of course, layering with a button-down is a no-fail option, too. This tip applies to men, too. Unless you're interviewing in a casual environment - like at a startup company - wearing a blazer on top does not give you the excuse to wear a tired t-shirt underneath. Take the extra effort and put on a button-down or, at the very least, a V-neck sweater.
Don’t be THAT Stand Out Guy!
Take it easy on the perfume and cologne. Your interviewer might have an allergy or aversion to strong scents.
It's fine to listen to music on your commute to the interview, but take them off before you enter the office, and stow them away before you're called in for the appointment.
Otherwise, you risk seeming distracted and unfocused, and you certainly don't want to be fumbling with tangled cords as you meet and shake hands with your interviewer.
Yes it’s hot in here!
It can be hard to figure out what to wear for a summer job interview. When the weather is warming up, no one wants to suffer in a heavy suit. At the same time, that does not give you an excuse to throw professionalism out the window and wear super-casual shorts, a tank top, or a casual dress.
GENTS
NO TANK TOPS
SLEEVES AT
ALL TIMES
Fortunately, because many summer jobs tend to be more “business casual” than dressy, most likely you won’t have to dress in a dark wool suit or heavy blazer. Both men and women can consider wearing tailored khakis, a nice polo shirt or button-down, and a pair of nice sensible shoes – but no flip-flops!
Get with the Times!
In a tight job market, everything matters - including your overall appearance. If your wardrobe is outdated, or if you have been out of the workforce for awhile and your closet reflects it, invest in some modern, fashion-forward clothes to wear to your interview. Don’t forget about shoes, either!
Throwing on a pair of sneakers, an old pair of pumps, or beat up dress shoes certainly won’t make you look polished or professional.
Ease Up!
While it’s important to look your best, loading on make-up is not the best way to go about it.

- Keep your look natural, avoiding dark eye shadow, bright lipstick or heavy foundation.
- Your best bet is to stick with a light coat of mascara, a touch of powder and some tinted lip balm.
- Aim to look refreshed and awake, without looking too done up.
Now is not the time to pull out that novelty tie you got last Christmas. Even if you think your tie will make a statement, err on the side of caution and stick with something that's more traditional. A pattern with conservative colors is perfectly fine – like subdued stripes or tasteful paisley.

Don’t try to be a funny guy who wears the tacky tie!
Ditch the Dazzle!
Both women and men should keep accessories to a minimum. Ladies should avoid excess jewelry – instead of big hoops or chandelier earrings, opt for classic studs. It’s also a good idea to avoid wearing flashy necklaces, large sunglasses or anything “bedazzled.”
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Really?
While accessories aren’t so much of an issue for men, it’s important to be mindful of things like cufflinks, tie clips and belts.

Don’t wear anything you might wear out to a club, for example.
Regardless of what you choose to wear, just remember that you want to look polished and professional. Don’t let your outfit detract from the focus on the interview:
YOU, your work experience, and how you would be the best fit for the job you want.