

INTERVIEW ATTIRE PLANNING

Selecting appropriate interview attire is an important piece of the interview preparation process. Your clothing demonstrates your understanding of the professional world of work. We recommend having a full interview suit planned for your interviews and, when in doubt, dress more conservatively. A full suit means a jacket and pants or skirt made of the same fabric (color and weight). Keep colors, make-up, and accessories neutral.

Audit your closet and see what pieces you already have and what you will need. For missing pieces, identify how you plan to get those pieces – borrowing or shopping. We know that professional attire *can be expensive* but it doesn't have to be! Many department stores will have excellent sales and coupons. Additionally, you can shop at outlets, thrift or consignment stores and via online stores/apps such as ThredUp, Poshmark, and Ebay. These methods might take a little longer but you can find excellent deals!

Audit Your Options

Item	Description of Your Item	Have it or need it?	Does it fit?	Is it free of stains or snags?	If you need it, where will you get it?
Bottom					
Top					
Jacket/Blazer					
Socks or Tights (if applicable)					
Shoes (closed-toe; heel lower than 3")					
Accessories (belt, watch, necklace, bracelet, earrings, scarf, etc.)					
Bags (Purse, briefcase, portfolio)					
Other? (Outerwear)					

Try it all on together and check it out from all angles. Does it work? Do you need anything else?

A few more tips:

- Fit is very important. For a polished look, consider getting sleeves, pant legs, etc. tailored – it's often not as expensive as you might think and makes a big difference!
- As you are able, continue to purchase more professional clothing items to begin building your wardrobe. Keep an eye out for how your items work together so you can maximize your mix and matching potential!
- Practice wearing your interview attire at home to become more comfortable in the outfit. Wear it as you are doing homework, playing video games, watching TV, etc. Sometimes we pick and pull at clothing we aren't used to wearing and you want to show the employer that you feel comfortable in a professional setting – clothing included!