

MAKE OR BREAK: INTERVIEWING TO WIN!

With the number of options companies have in hiring talent, they are using stricter interviewing methods to audition future employees. While some job professionals think they aced their interviews when they leave, they often forget that it is more than doing well that puts them in the lead for the job.

Below are some helpful basic tips, snippets from the front lines, and advanced success strategies:

What to Do

Research the company website beforehand

Bring a list of questions

Dress for success: Suit and tie or women's business suit or dress

Ask for cards or write down names after introductions

Make good eye contact when addressing the interviewer



What NOT to Do

Do not show up late. Find good directions and arrive 5-10 minutes early

Do not interrupt the interviewer

Do not reveal tattoos, or facial piercings. Get a fresh haircut or style

Never yawn, check your watch, or look off at distractions

Turn off your cell phone completely before entering the building

ADVANCED STRATEGIES FOR DEFEATING THE COMPETITION

Bring specific examples of your work and be prepared to elaborate. Most people answer too briefly, so try and link what you have done with how you can help them. See our website for more info

Take a problem-solver approach by asking questions about what their challenges have been in this role before or why the position has come available.

Avoid any defensive posture when answering a question that may knock you off balance – Remember, they want to see how you react to negative situations, so remain calm and cool.

If you have any nervous habits, try and cross your feet under the table and take long deep breaths when the interviewer is speaking.

LESSONS FROM THE FRONT LINES TO LIVE BY

One hiring manager mentioned hearing someone he had just interviewed in the hallway on his cell phone bragging about how he nailed the job, along with some disturbing expletives...he never got a call back.

A job seeker decided to make a quick trip to the men's room after his interview only to overhear two interviewers in the stalls discussing him in a less-than-flattering perspective.

During her interview, a prospective hire was asked to explain several provocative photos and language found on her online networking site...the interview lasted less than fifteen minutes.