

7 Ways You Are Letting Yourself Down At Interview

WELCOME!



I am so excited for you! Your application has impressed the socks off your potential employer and they have called you in for an interview. It is time for you to work your magic and seal the deal - win your perfect job!

When you get the call, excitement runs through your veins as you imagine yourself nailing your interview, but then... you freeze. Your nerves kick in, you're overwhelmed and all of a sudden your confidence drops through the floor. You are starting to question whether you have what it takes.

STOP! Turn down the volume on that voice inside and know that this doesn't have to be the way. You can conquer your fear, build your confidence, develop a strategy and give an amazing performance. Start by avoiding these 7 mistakes!

1. YOUR OUTFIT

.....
(Don't forget the dress code!)

Seems pretty simple, but you need to dress appropriately for an interview. My (very strong) opinion is that you can never be over-dressed for an interview, so you really need to make an effort!

Over the years, I have seen plenty of interview outfits that have made me shudder. If you are in a creative field like marketing, PR or art, then you have a little more freedom to get creative with your personal presentation, but you really need to know your industry.

If in doubt, a smart pant or skirt suit is always a good start. Steer clear of teeny-tiny-mini-skirts and prints could be too overpowering, but don't be afraid to include pops of colour to show off your personality. Keep your hair and makeup simple and don't forget the tiny details. Chipped nail polish is very distracting!

2. ALWAYS BE PREPARED



**(Winging it is
not worth it!)**

This point is about research and the key rule about research is that you should always do it!

Before your interview, you need to study your potential employer and make sure you understand the role you have applied for. If they have sent you any documentation prior to the interview, you absolutely need to read it!

You might be surprised at the number of people that I have interviewed that have not googled my company or read the position description before our meeting.

On the flipside, remember that research and stalking are two different things. Don't go overboard. Looking into your interviewer's personal life (and bringing it up in the interview) is creepy. Can you tell that I have had some strange experiences?

5. NOT BEING CURIOUS

**(You should
always have
questions
prepared)**

At the end of (almost) all interviews you will be offered the opportunity to ask questions. You should always be ready to ask at least one or two solid questions about the company or the position you applied for.

Asking questions assures your interviewer that you are interested and curious about the position, you have been paying attention and that you have the capacity to ask intelligent and appropriate questions!

Use this time to find out more information about the team that you will be working with, the culture of the organisation, specifics of the role or the company values.

Avoid asking too many questions, or focusing on minute details - you will have more opportunities to ask questions later in the process!

6. BEING TOO NERVOUS

(Don't let your nerves take over)

Let me tell you. Being nervous in an interview is 100% normal. In fact, being a little nervous can show your interviewers that you are actually interested in the role - being too cocky can make it seem like you aren't that invested.

The thing is though, that there is being nervous and then there is being a nervous wreck! I have seen candidates that were so anxious about being interviewed that they couldn't sit still.

If you are the nervous wreck type in an interview then I would suggest the following:

- * Practice with a friend or even in the mirror. Focus on letting your personality shine through.
- * Consider engaging the services of a coach. A good coach will be experienced in developing strategies to help with nerves and anxiety.

7. BEING TOO VAGUE

(Specific examples for the win!)

Behavioural interviewing is extremely common and you should be prepared for it! Behavioural interview questions are the ones that ask you to contribute specific examples about work that you have completed.

The worst thing that you can do when asked a question like this is to give a vague answer. Unfortunately, it happens all the time.

Your interviewer asks you to tell them about a time when you had to prioritise your workload in order to get results. Your response absolutely must include an example of a SPECIFIC time.

Too often, candidates get caught up in the task part of the question and start blabbing on about their amazing prioritisation skills and how they CAN achieve results instead of talking about when they actually HAVE done it.



**HI, I'M BECCA.
I HOPE YOU
ENJOYED THIS
MINI EBOOK!**



My name is Becca and I am the creator of Pop Your Career, a website dedicated to providing the freshest career advice that won't bore your socks off!

I am a passionate coach, writer and facilitator with a gift for helping people find, win and love their dream careers.

If you want some information about my blog, my products and services or you just feel like saying "G'day", please connect with me via the links below - I would love to hear from you!

Becca xo

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