

INTERVIEWS

The job interview is the most important step of the hiring process. This is where you have an opportunity to talk in depth about who you are and how you can add value to the company.

When thinking about your upcoming interview, keep these three words in mind:

KNOW - what do you want the interviewer to know about you?

FEEL - how do you want them to feel about you? What examples can you give?

DO - what do you want them to do? (Hire you!) Don't be afraid to tell them this, and why they should choose you above all other candidates.

Remember to practice your interview with a trusted human who will give you honest feedback a couple of days before your job interview.

INTERVIEW PREPARATION

Rule number one - **PREPARE** for each job interview.

- Research the company. This will prove you want to work there.
 - Review common interview questions and practice answering them.
 - Think about 3-5 skills you have developed and link each of those skills to a specific experience you've had.
 - Plan what you will wear, remembering to be as professionally dressed as possible.
 - Finish the interview well by thanking them for the opportunity AND reminding them why you would be the right person for the job.
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COMMON INTERVIEW QUESTIONS:

1. Tell me about yourself? (What are 2 things you want them to know about you from the get-go?)
 2. What are your strengths and weaknesses? (Everyone has them - do you know yours? Can you articulate them?)
 3. How well do you work with a team? Under pressure?
 4. Tell me about a time when you were in conflict. What did you learn?
 5. Tell me about a success you've had.
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REMEMBER:

- Be your authentic self.
 - Don't try to be their perfect candidate or someone you are not.
 - You are interviewing them as much as they are interviewing you; be prepared with your own questions and pay attention to their answers.
 - They want to hire you! They want the interview to be successful.
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PRO TIPS:

- Schedule a practice interview at the Career Center through Handshake.
- Write out your answers and practice in front of a mirror.
- An interview is like a first date. If you don't feel like the company is a good fit, you do not have to accept the job if offered.