

5 Tips for a Successful Interview



So you landed a job interview. Now what? Here are helpful tips to getting the job:

1. *"I am a perfectionist" or "I never take time off".*
It is unrealistic to state that you *never* take time off, it implies that you might burn out quickly or do not know how to manage your time well. In addition, stating that you always want things done well is something every employer has heard. You sound insincere and unoriginal. Instead, be honest; highlight a personality trait that you demonstrated mastery over.
2. *Dress professionally.*
First impressions are vital. While in the military, you were not burdened with choosing and deciding what outfits to wear. However, in the civilian job market, your appearance is completely up to your discretion and you have to ensure that it is appropriate for the job you are applying for. Seek out popular resources [HERE](#) for tips on what to wear to your interview.
3. *Research the company.*
Always have questions ready to ask the employer. It shows interest and a desire to be a part of their team. Learn about the company's mission, goals, and presence in the community, the state, or the nation. Use that knowledge to speak about how you can further their vision.
4. *Be yourself.*
Show your personality. Allow your enthusiasm and individuality to shine through. No one likes speaking to a robot. Make good eye contact, address the employer by their name, and smile.
5. *Practice. Practice. Practice!*
The military is notorious for its preparation skills. Those incessant drills and exercises taught you to always practice so you're ready and calm for the real thing. You can never be too prepared and should never underestimate the power of practicing for an interview by researching common questions and having an answer. Grab a friend and have them ask you the questions and practice articulating your answers. Make sure you are detailed and give plenty of examples of how and why you are the perfect fit for the job. Check out Forbes magazine's Top 50 Most Common Interview Questions [HERE](#).

